

# Global existence and regularity for the full coupled Navier-Stokes and $Q$ -tensor system

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## 1 Introduction

In this paper we continue the study, initiated in [27], concerning the global existence of solutions for a system describing the evolution of a nematic liquid crystal fluid. This system is a prototypical example of a certain type of non-Newtonian complex fluids, in which the stress tensor of the fluid has, in addition to the usual Newtonian part, a component due to the presence of particles embedded in the flow, namely the liquid crystal molecules. The evolution of the flow is influenced by the presence of these particles and on the other hand the evolution of the flow affects the direction and position of the liquid crystal molecules. This situation is modelled through a forced Navier-Stokes system, describing the flow, coupled with a parabolic-type system describing the evolution of the nematic crystal director fields ( $Q$ -tensors, that is traceless and symmetric  $d$ -by- $d$  matrices,  $d = 2, 3$ ).

In our previous work, [27], we assumed that a certain parameter,  $\xi$ , is zero, which had the effect of cancelling certain terms. In the current work we do not make this assumption and study the full system, observing that the presence of these additional terms has a non-trivial effect, namely the quadruply exponential increase of the high norms (that will be detailed below). We also estimate differently certain terms already existent in the simplified system and improve the estimates in [27].

The full coupled system has, as well as the simplified version in [27], a Lyapunov functional made of two parts: the free energy due to the director fields and the kinetic energy of the fluid. This functional describes, from a physical point of view, the dissipation of the energy of the complex fluid.

In the first part of the paper we use the a priori bounds on the solution (provided by the energy dissipation) to prove the existence of global weak solutions in the natural energy space. In the second part, we study the case where the fluid evolves in the two dimensional space and prove the existence of a global regular solution issued from, an appropriately regular, initial data. In the two dimensional space we also show that for an appropriately regular initial data the weak and the strong solutions coincide.

The main part of our study concerns the high regularity of the solutions that start from regular (enough) initial data. We use, at a higher level of regularity, the cancellations that made possible the existence of the Lyapunov functional, to avoid estimating certain terms with maximal number of derivatives. Thus we show that for this type of complex fluids the existence of an energy dissipation is intrinsically related to the high regularity of the solutions. Moreover, the differential inequality relating the high Sobolev norms of the solution (inequality that allows us to obtain uniform bounds in high Sobolev spaces), is not completely classical and takes a form that is different from, for example, the classical situation of global wellposedness for incompressible Euler equation in two dimensions. Indeed, in our proof we use the logarithmic Sobolev embedding of  $H^{1+\epsilon}$  in  $L^\infty$  in conjunction with the precise growth of the constant of the Sobolev embedding of  $H^1$  in any  $L^p$  (which is  $C\sqrt{p}$ ), and an optimal choice of the Lebesgue index  $p$  depending on the norm of the solution. This way we obtain a differential inequality with a double-logarithmical correction and this allows us to obtain a global in time control of high Sobolev norms of the solution.

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There exist several competing theories that attempt to capture the complexity of nematic liquid crystals, and a comparative discussion and further references are available for instance in [17], [22]. In the present paper we use one of the most comprehensive description of nematics, the  $Q$ -tensor description, proposed by P.G. de Gennes [15]. There exist various specific models that all use the  $Q$ -tensor description and a comparative discussion of the main models is available for instance in [25]. In this paper we use a model proposed by Beris and Edwards [3], that one can find in the physics literature for instance in [12], [26]. An important feature of this model is that if one assumes smooth solutions and one formally takes  $Q(x) = s_+(n(x) \otimes n(x) - \frac{1}{d}Id)$ , with  $s_+$  a constant (depending on the parameters of the system, see for instance [22]) and  $n : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$  smooth (with  $d$  the dimension of the space), then the equations reduce (see [12]) to the generally accepted equations of Ericksen, Leslie and Parodi [16]. The system we study is related structurally to other models of complex fluids coupling a transport equation with a forced Navier-Stokes system [7], [8], [9], [11], [18], [19], [23]. In our case the Navier-Stokes equations are coupled with a parabolic type system, but we also have two more derivatives (than in the previously mentioned models) in the forcing term of the Navier-Stokes equations. The Ericksen-Leslie-Parodi system describing nematic liquid crystals, whose structure is closer to our system (but that has one less derivative in the forcing term of the Navier-Stokes equations) was studied in [13], [14], [20].

In the following we use a partial Einstein summation convention, that is we assume summation over repeated *greek* indices, but not over the repeated *latin* indices. We consider the equations as described in [12], [26] but assume that the fluid has constant density in time. We denote

$$S(\nabla u, Q) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\xi D + \Omega)(Q + \frac{1}{d}Id) + (Q + \frac{1}{d}Id)(\xi D - \Omega) - 2\xi(Q + \frac{1}{d}Id)\text{tr}(Q\nabla u) \quad (1)$$

where  $D \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2}(\nabla u + (\nabla u)^T)$  and  $\Omega \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2}(\nabla u - (\nabla u)^T)$  are the symmetric part and the antisymmetric part, respectively, of the velocity gradient matrix  $\nabla u$ . The constant  $d$  is the dimension of the space and  $Q$  is a function on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with values into  $S_0^{(d)}$  (see the notations paragraph below). The term  $S(\nabla, Q)$  appears in the equation of motion of the order-parameter,  $Q$ , and describes how the flow gradient rotates and stretches the order-parameter. The constant  $\xi$  depends on the molecular details of a given liquid crystal and measures the ratio between the tumbling and the aligning effect that a shear flow would exert over the liquid crystal directors.

We also denote:

$$H \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -aQ + b[Q^2 - \frac{\text{tr}(Q^2)}{3}Id] - cQ\text{tr}(Q^2) + L\Delta Q \quad (2)$$

where  $L > 0$ . It will also be convenient to denote

$$F \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} H - L\Delta Q \quad (3)$$

With the notations above we have the coupled system:

$$\begin{cases} (\partial_t + u \cdot \nabla)Q - S(\nabla u, Q) = \Gamma H \\ \partial_t u_\alpha + u_\beta \partial_\beta u_\alpha = \nu \partial_{\beta\beta} u_\alpha + \partial_\alpha p + \partial_\beta \tau_{\alpha\beta} + \partial_\beta \sigma_{\alpha\beta} \\ \partial_\gamma u_\gamma = 0 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where  $\Gamma > 0, \nu > 0$  and we have the symmetric part of the additional stress tensor:

$$\tau_{\alpha\beta} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -\xi \left( Q_{\alpha\gamma} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\gamma}}{d} \right) H_{\gamma\beta} - \xi H_{\alpha\gamma} \left( Q_{\gamma\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\gamma\beta}}{d} \right) + 2\xi(Q_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{d})Q_{\gamma\delta}H_{\gamma\delta} - L \left( \partial_\beta Q_{\gamma\delta} \partial_\alpha Q_{\gamma\delta} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{d} Q_{\nu\varepsilon} Q_{\nu\varepsilon} \right) \quad (5)$$

and an antisymmetric part:

$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Q_{\alpha\gamma} H_{\gamma\beta} - H_{\alpha\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta} \quad (6)$$

We also need to assume from now on that

$$c > 0 \quad (7)$$

This assumption is necessary from a modelling point of view (see [21], [22]) so that the energy  $\mathcal{F}$  (see next section, relation (8)) is bounded from below, and it is also necessary for having global solutions (see Proposition 2 and its proof).

**Notations and conventions** Let  $S_0^{(d)} \subset \mathbb{M}^{d \times d}$  denote the space of Q-tensors in dimension  $d$ , i.e.

$$S_0^{(d)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{Q \in \mathbb{M}^{d \times d}; Q_{ij} = Q_{ji}, \text{tr}(Q) = 0, i, j = 1, \dots, d\}$$

We use the Frobenius norm of a matrix  $|Q| \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{\text{tr}Q^2} = \sqrt{Q_{\alpha\beta}Q_{\alpha\beta}}$  and define Sobolev spaces of  $Q$ -tensors in terms of this norm. For instance  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^d, S_0^{(d)}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{Q : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow S_0^{(d)}, \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla Q(x)|^2 + |Q(x)|^2 dx < \infty\}$ . For  $A, B \in S_0$  we denote  $A \cdot B = \text{tr}(AB)$  and  $|A| = \sqrt{\text{tr}(A^2)}$ . We also denote  $|\nabla Q|^2(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Q_{\alpha\beta,\gamma}(x)Q_{\alpha\beta,\gamma}(x)$  and  $|\Delta Q|^2(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}(x)\Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}(x)$ . We recall also that  $\Omega_{\alpha\beta} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\beta u_\alpha - \partial_\alpha u_\beta)$  and  $u_{\alpha,\beta} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \partial_\beta u_\alpha$ ,  $Q_{ij,k} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \partial_k Q_{ij}$ .

## 2 The energy decay and apriori estimates

Let us denote the free energy of the director fields:

$$\mathcal{F}(Q) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{L}{2}|\nabla Q|^2 + \frac{a}{2}\text{tr}(Q^2) - \frac{b}{3}\text{tr}(Q^3) + \frac{c}{4}\text{tr}^2(Q^2) dx \quad (8)$$

In the absence of the flow, when  $u = 0$  in the equations (4), the free energy is a Lyapunov functional of the system. If  $u \neq 0$  we still have a Lyapunov functional for (4) but this time one that includes the kinetic energy of the system. More precisely we have:

**Proposition 1.** *The system (4) has a Lyapunov functional:*

$$E(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |u|^2(t, x) dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{L}{2}|\nabla Q|^2(t, x) + \frac{a}{2}\text{tr}(Q^2(t, x)) - \frac{b}{3}\text{tr}(Q^3(t, x)) + \frac{c}{4}\text{tr}^2(Q^2(t, x)) dx \quad (9)$$

If  $d = 2, 3$  and  $(Q, u)$  is a smooth solution of (4) such that  $Q \in L^\infty(0, T; H^1(\mathbb{R}^d)) \cap L^2(0, T; H^2(\mathbb{R}^d))$  and  $u \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)) \cap L^2(0, T; H^1(\mathbb{R}^d))$  then, for all  $t < T$ , we have:

$$\frac{d}{dt}E(t) = -\nu \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^2 dx - \Gamma \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr} \left( L\Delta Q - aQ + b[Q^2 - \frac{\text{tr}(Q^2)}{d}Id] - cQ\text{tr}(Q^2) \right)^2 dx \leq 0 \quad (10)$$

**Proof.** We multiply the first equation in (4) to the right by  $-H$ , take the trace, integrate over  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and by parts and sum with the second equation multiplied by  $u$  and integrated over  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and by parts (let us observe that because of our assumptions on  $Q$  and  $u$  we do not have boundary terms, when integrating by parts). We obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{2}|u|^2 + \frac{L}{2}|\nabla Q|^2 + \frac{a}{2}\text{tr}(Q^2) - \frac{b}{3}\text{tr}(Q^3) + \frac{c}{4}\text{tr}^2(Q^2) dx \\ & + \nu \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^2 dx + \Gamma \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr} \left( L\Delta Q - aQ + b[Q^2 - \frac{\text{tr}(Q^2)}{d}Id] - cQ\text{tr}(Q^2) \right)^2 dx \\ & = \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u \cdot \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta} \left( -aQ_{\alpha\beta} + b[Q_{\alpha\gamma}Q_{\gamma\beta} - \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{d}\text{tr}(Q^2)] - cQ_{\alpha\beta}\text{tr}(Q^2) \right) dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}} \\ & + \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (-\Omega_{\alpha\gamma}Q_{\gamma\beta} + Q_{\alpha\gamma}\Omega_{\gamma\beta}) \left( -aQ_{\alpha\beta} + b[Q_{\alpha\delta}Q_{\delta\beta} - \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{d}\text{tr}(Q^2)] - cQ_{\alpha\beta}\text{tr}(Q^2) \right) dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{II}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\xi \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (Q_{\alpha\gamma} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\gamma}}{d}) D_{\gamma\beta} H_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{J}_1} - \xi \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} D_{\alpha\gamma} \left( Q_{\gamma\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\gamma\beta}}{d} \right) H_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{J}_2} + 2\xi \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( Q_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{d} \right) H_{\alpha\beta} \text{tr}(Q \nabla u) dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{J}_3} \\
& \quad + L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_\gamma Q_{\alpha\beta,\gamma} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{A}} - \frac{L}{2} \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_{\alpha,\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{B}} \\
& \quad + \frac{L}{2} \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_{\gamma,\alpha} Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{C}} + \frac{L}{2} \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\alpha\gamma} u_{\gamma,\beta} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{C}} - \frac{L}{2} \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\alpha\gamma} u_{\beta,\gamma} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{B}} \\
& \quad + L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta} u_{\alpha,\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{AA}} - L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} u_{\alpha,\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{CC}} + L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta} u_{\alpha,\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{BB}} \\
& + \xi \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (Q_{\alpha\gamma} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\gamma}}{d}) H_{\gamma\beta} u_{\alpha,\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{JJ}_1} + \xi \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} H_{\alpha\gamma} (Q_{\gamma\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\gamma\beta}}{d}) u_{\alpha,\beta} dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{JJ}_2} - 2\xi \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (Q_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{d}) u_{\alpha,\beta} \text{tr}(Q H) dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{JJ}_3} \\
& = -L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_{\alpha,\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{2\mathcal{B}} + L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_{\gamma,\alpha} Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{2\mathcal{C}} - L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} u_{\alpha,\beta} dx}_{\mathcal{CC}} + L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta} u_{\alpha,\beta} dx}_{\mathcal{BB}} = 0 \quad (11)
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{I} = 0$  (since  $\nabla \cdot u = 0$ ),  $\mathcal{II} = 0$  (since  $Q_{\alpha\beta} = Q_{\beta\alpha}$ ) and for the second equality we used

$$\begin{aligned}
& \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_\gamma Q_{\alpha\beta,\gamma} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} dx}_{\mathcal{A}} + \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta} u_{\alpha,\beta} dx}_{\mathcal{AA}} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_\gamma Q_{\alpha\beta,\gamma} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} dx \\
& - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta} u_{\alpha,\beta} dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta} u_{\alpha,\beta} dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{2} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta} u_{\alpha,\alpha} dx = 0
\end{aligned}$$

together with  $Q_{\alpha\alpha} = H_{\alpha\alpha} = u_{\alpha,\alpha} = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{J}_3 = \mathcal{JJ}_3$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{J}_1 + \mathcal{J}_2 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{2} Q_{\alpha\gamma} u_{\gamma,\beta} H_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} Q_{\alpha\gamma} u_{\beta,\gamma} H_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} u_{\alpha,\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta} H_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} u_{\gamma,\alpha} Q_{\gamma\beta} H_{\alpha\beta} dx \\
&+ \frac{2}{d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} D_{\alpha\beta} H_{\alpha\beta} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{2} (Q_{\alpha\gamma} u_{\gamma,\beta} H_{\alpha\beta} + u_{\gamma,\alpha} Q_{\gamma\beta} H_{\alpha\beta}) + \frac{1}{2} (Q_{\alpha\gamma} u_{\beta,\gamma} H_{\alpha\beta} + u_{\alpha,\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta} H_{\alpha\beta}) dx \\
&+ \frac{1}{d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (u_{\alpha,\beta} + u_{\beta,\alpha}) H_{\alpha\beta} dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} H_{\beta\alpha} Q_{\alpha\gamma} u_{\gamma,\beta} + Q_{\gamma\alpha} H_{\alpha\beta} u_{\beta,\gamma} dx + \frac{2}{d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_{\alpha,\beta} H_{\alpha\beta} dx = \mathcal{JJ}_1 + \mathcal{JJ}_2
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, the last equality in (11) is a consequence of the straightforward identities  $2\mathcal{B} + \mathcal{BB} = 2\mathcal{C} + \mathcal{CC} = 0$ .

□

In the following we assume that there exists a smooth solution of (4) and obtain estimates on the behaviour of various norms:

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $(Q, u)$  be a smooth solution of (4) in dimension  $d = 2$  or  $d = 3$ , with restriction (7), and smooth initial data  $(\bar{Q}(x), \bar{u}(x))$ , that decays fast enough at infinity so that we can integrate by parts in space (for any  $t \geq 0$ ) without boundary terms.*

(i) For  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{u}) \in H^1 \times L^2$ , we have

$$\|Q(t, \cdot)\|_{H^1} \leq C_1 + \bar{C}_1 e^{\bar{C}_1 t} \|\bar{Q}\|_{H^1}, \forall t \geq 0 \quad (12)$$

with  $C_1, \bar{C}_1$  depending on  $(a, b, c, d, \Gamma, L, \nu, \bar{Q}, \bar{u})$ .

(ii) For  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{u}) \in H^1 \times L^2$ , we have:

$$\|u(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 + 2\nu \int_0^t \|\nabla u(s, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 ds + L \|\nabla Q(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 + \Gamma L^2 \int_0^t \|\Delta Q(s, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 ds \leq C_2 + \bar{C}_2 e^{\bar{C}_2 t} \quad (13)$$

with the constants  $C_2, \bar{C}_2$  depending on  $(a, b, c, d, L, \Gamma, \bar{u}, \bar{Q}, \nu)$ .

**Proof.** We multiply the first equation in (4) by  $Q$ , take the trace, integrate over  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and by parts and we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |Q|^2(t, x) dx &= \Gamma \left( -L \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla Q|^2 dx - a \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |Q(x)|^2 dx + b \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}(Q^3) dx - c \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |Q|^4 dx \right) \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}(\Omega Q^2 - Q \Omega Q) dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}} \\ &+ \underbrace{\xi \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} D_{\alpha\gamma} (Q_{\gamma\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\gamma\beta}}{d}) Q_{\alpha\beta} + (Q_{\alpha\gamma} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\gamma}}{d}) D_{\gamma\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta} - 2(Q_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{d}) Q_{\alpha\beta} \text{tr}(Q \nabla u) dx}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{II}} \end{aligned}$$

Recalling that  $Q$  is symmetric we have  $\mathcal{I} = 0$ . Also:

$$|\mathcal{II}| = |2\xi| \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{d} D_{\alpha\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta} + D_{\alpha\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta} Q_{\beta\alpha} - Q_{\alpha\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta} \text{tr}(Q \nabla u) dx \right| \leq C(\xi, d) \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varepsilon |\nabla u|^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (|Q|^2 + |Q|^6) dx$$

hence we get:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |Q|^2 dx \leq C(\xi, d) \varepsilon \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^2 dx + C(\xi, \Gamma, L, a, b, c, d) \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |Q|^2 + |Q|^6 dx$$

Adding the last relation multiplied by  $A^2$  (with  $A \in \mathbb{R}$  a constant to be chosen) and (10) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{L}{2} |\nabla Q|^2 + A^2 |Q|^2 + \frac{a}{2} |Q|^2 - \frac{b}{3} \text{tr}(Q^3) + \frac{c}{4} |Q|^4 dx &\leq (C(\xi, d) \varepsilon A^2 - \nu) \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{C(\xi, \Gamma, L, a, b, c, d) A^2}{\varepsilon} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |Q|^2 + |Q|^6 dx \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Let us observe that for  $Q$  a traceless, symmetric,  $3 \times 3$  matrix we have:

$$\text{tr}(Q^3) \leq \frac{3\delta}{8} \text{tr}^2(Q^2) + \frac{1}{\delta} \text{tr}(Q^2), \forall \delta > 0 \quad (15)$$

Indeed, if  $Q$  has the eigenvalues  $x, y, -x - y$  then  $\text{tr}(Q^3) = -3xy(x + y)$ ,  $\text{tr}(Q^2) = 2(x^2 + y^2 + xy)$  and the inequality (15) follows. Then, choosing  $\delta$  appropriately small and for  $A$  large enough we have:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{L}{2} |\nabla Q(t, x)|^2 + \frac{A^2}{2} |Q(t, x)|^2 dx \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{L}{2} |\nabla Q(t, x)|^2 + A^2 |Q(t, x)|^2 + \frac{a}{2} |Q(t, x)|^2 - \frac{b}{3} \text{tr}(Q^3(t, x)) + \frac{c}{4} |Q(t, x)|^4 dx \quad (16)$$

(note that we can choose  $\delta > 0$  appropriately small so that we have the previous inequality precisely because of our assumption (7), namely  $c > 0$ )

In the case  $d = 2$  we have  $\text{tr}(Q^3) = 0$  (as  $Q$  is traceless and symmetric) but we still need the assumption  $c > 0$  in order to have the estimate (16).

Using together (14) and (16) and choosing  $\varepsilon > 0$  appropriately small so that  $C(\xi, d) \varepsilon A^2 - \nu < 0$  we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{L}{2} |\nabla Q(t, x)|^2 + \frac{A^2}{2} |Q(t, x)|^2 dx &\leq C_1 + C_2 \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |Q(s, x)|^2 + |Q(s, x)|^6 ds dx \\
&\leq C_1 + C_3 \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{L}{2} |\nabla Q(s, x)|^2 + \frac{A^2}{2} |Q(s, x)|^2 ds dx
\end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

where  $C_1$  depends on the initial data  $A, \varepsilon, L, a, b, c, d$  and  $C_2, C_3$  depend on  $A, \varepsilon, L, a, b, c, d, \Gamma$ . Thus we obtain the claimed estimate (12).

(ii) Relation (10) implies

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{L}{2} \|\nabla Q(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 + \nu \int_0^t \|\nabla u(s, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 ds + \Gamma L^2 \int_0^t \|\Delta Q(s, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 ds \\
&\leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}(Q^2(t, x)) + \text{tr}^2(Q^2(t, x)) dx + C \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}(Q^2(0, x)) + \text{tr}^2(Q^2(0, x)) dx + \frac{L}{2} \|\nabla Q(0, \cdot)\|_{L^2} + \frac{1}{2} \|u(0, \cdot)\|_{L^2}^2 \\
&\quad - \Gamma \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}(L \Delta Q(aQ - bQ^2 + cQ \text{tr}(Q^2))) dx ds - \Gamma \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}((aQ - bQ^2 + cQ \text{tr}(Q^2)) L \Delta Q) dx ds \\
&\quad + \Gamma \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}(aQ - bQ^2 + cQ \text{tr}(Q^2))^2 dx ds
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

In the last inequality we use Holder inequality to estimate  $\Delta Q$  in  $L^2$  and absorb it in the left hand side while the terms without gradients are estimated using (12) and interpolation between the  $L^2$  and  $L^6$  norms.  $\square$

### 3 Weak solutions

A pair  $(Q, u)$  is called a weak solution of the system (4), subject to initial data

$$Q(0, x) = \bar{Q}(x) \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^d), u(0, x) = \bar{u}(x) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d), \nabla \cdot \bar{u} = 0 \text{ in } \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^d) \tag{19}$$

if  $Q \in L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; H^1) \cap L_{loc}^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^2)$ ,  $u \in L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; L^2) \cap L_{loc}^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^1)$  and for every compactly supported  $\varphi \in C^\infty([0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^d; S_0^{(d)})$ ,  $\psi \in C^\infty([0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$  with  $\nabla \cdot \psi = 0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (-Q \cdot \partial_t \varphi - \Gamma L \Delta Q \cdot \varphi) - Q \cdot u \nabla_x \varphi dx dt \\
&- \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\xi D + \Omega)(Q + \frac{1}{d} Id) \cdot \varphi + (Q + \frac{1}{d} Id)(\xi D - \Omega) \cdot \varphi - 2\xi(Q + \frac{1}{d} Id) \text{tr}(Q \nabla u) \cdot \varphi dx dt \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \bar{Q}(x) \cdot \varphi(0, x) dx + \Gamma \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ -aQ + b[Q^2 - \frac{\text{tr}(Q^2)}{d} Id] - cQ \text{tr}(Q^2) \right\} \cdot \varphi dx dt
\end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
&\int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} -u \partial_t \psi - u_\alpha u_\beta \partial_\alpha \psi_\beta + \nu \nabla u \nabla \psi dt dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \bar{u}(x) \psi(0, x) dx \\
&= L \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta} \psi_{\alpha,\beta} - Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \psi_{\alpha,\beta} + \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta} \psi_{\alpha,\beta} dx dt \\
&+ \xi \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( Q_{\alpha\gamma} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\gamma}}{d} \right) H_{\gamma\beta} \psi_{\alpha,\beta} + H_{\alpha\gamma} \left( Q_{\gamma\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\gamma\beta}}{d} \right) \psi_{\alpha,\beta} - 2(Q_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{d}) Q_{\gamma\delta} H_{\gamma\delta} \psi_{\alpha,\beta} dx dt
\end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

**Proposition 3.** For  $d = 2, 3$  there exists a weak solution  $(Q, u)$  of the system (4), with restriction (7), subject to initial conditions (19). The solution  $(Q, u)$  is such that  $Q \in L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; H^1) \cap L_{loc}^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^2)$  and  $u \in L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; L^2) \cap L_{loc}^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^1)$ .

**Proof.** We define the mollifying operator

$$\widehat{J_n f}(\xi) = 1_{[\frac{1}{n}, n]}(|\xi|) \hat{f}(\xi)$$

and consider the system:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t Q^{(n)} + J_n \left( \mathcal{P} J_n u^n \nabla J_n Q^{(n)} \right) - J_n \left( (\xi \mathcal{P} J_n D^n + \mathcal{P} J_n \Omega^n)(J_n Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) \right) + J_n \left( (J_n Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id)(\xi \mathcal{P} J_n D^n - \mathcal{P} J_n \Omega^n) \right) \\ - 2\xi J_n \left( (J_n Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) \text{tr} J_n (J_n Q^{(n)} \nabla \mathcal{P} J_n u^n) \right) = \Gamma L \Delta J_n Q^{(n)} + \\ + \Gamma \left( -a J_n Q^{(n)} + b [J_n (J_n Q^{(n)} J_n Q^{(n)}) - \frac{\text{tr}(J_n (J_n Q^{(n)} J_n Q^{(n)}))}{d} Id] - c J_n \left( J_n Q^{(n)} \text{tr} (J_n (J_n Q^{(n)} J_n Q^{(n)})) \right) \right) \\ \partial_t u^n + \mathcal{P} J_n (\mathcal{P} J_n u^n \nabla \mathcal{P} J_n u^n) = -\xi \mathcal{P} J_n \nabla \cdot \left( (J_n Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) J_n \tilde{H}^{(n)} \right) - \xi \mathcal{P} J_n \nabla \cdot \left( J_n \tilde{H}^{(n)} (J_n Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) \right) \\ + 2\xi \mathcal{P} J_n \nabla \cdot \left( (J_n Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) J_n (J_n Q^{(n)} J_n \tilde{H}^{(n)}) \right) - L \mathcal{P} J_n (\nabla \cdot (\text{tr}(\nabla J_n Q^{(n)} \nabla J_n Q^{(n)}) - \frac{1}{d} |\nabla J_n Q^{(n)}|^2 Id)) \\ + L \mathcal{P} (\nabla \cdot J_n (J_n Q^{(n)} \Delta J_n Q^{(n)} - \Delta J_n Q^{(n)} J_n Q^{(n)})) + \nu \Delta \mathcal{P} J_n u^n \end{array} \right.$$

where  $\mathcal{P}$  denotes the Leray projector onto divergence-free vector fields and  $\tilde{H}^{(n)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} L J_n \Delta Q^{(n)} - a J_n Q^{(n)} + b [J_n (J_n Q^{(n)} J_n Q^{(n)}) - \frac{\text{tr}(J_n (J_n Q^{(n)} J_n Q^{(n)}))}{d} Id] - c J_n \left( J_n Q^{(n)} \text{tr} (J_n (J_n Q^{(n)} J_n Q^{(n)})) \right)$ .

The system above can be regarded as an ordinary differential equation in  $L^2$  verifying the conditions of the Cauchy-Lipschitz theorem. Thus it admits a unique maximal solution  $(Q^{(n)}, u^n) \in C^1([0, T_n]; L^2(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}) \times L^2(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d))$ . As we have  $(\mathcal{P} J_n)^2 = \mathcal{P} J_n$  and  $J_n^2 = J_n$  the pair  $(J_n Q^{(n)}, \mathcal{P} J_n u^n)$  is also a solution of (22). By uniqueness we have  $(J_n Q^{(n)}, \mathcal{P} J_n u^n) = (Q^{(n)}, u^n)$  hence  $(Q^{(n)}, u^n) \in C^1([0, T_n], H^\infty)$  and  $(Q^{(n)}, u^n)$  satisfy the system:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t Q^{(n)} + J_n (u^n \nabla Q^{(n)}) - J_n \left( (\xi D^n + \Omega^n)(Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) \right) + J_n \left( (Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id)(\xi D^n - \Omega^n) \right) \\ - 2\xi J_n \left( (Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) \text{tr} J_n (Q^{(n)} \nabla u^n) \right) = \Gamma L \Delta Q^{(n)} \\ + \Gamma \left( -a Q^{(n)} + b [J_n (Q^{(n)} Q^{(n)}) - \frac{\text{tr}(J_n (Q^{(n)} Q^{(n)}))}{d} Id] - c J_n \left( Q^{(n)} \text{tr} (J_n (Q^{(n)} Q^{(n)})) \right) \right) \\ \partial_t u^n + \mathcal{P} J_n (u^n \nabla u^n) = -\xi \mathcal{P} J_n \nabla \cdot \left( (Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) \bar{H}^{(n)} \right) - \xi \mathcal{P} J_n \nabla \cdot \left( \bar{H}^{(n)} (Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) \right) \\ + 2\xi \mathcal{P} J_n \nabla \cdot \left( (Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) J_n (Q^{(n)} \bar{H}^{(n)}) \right) - L \mathcal{P} J_n (\nabla \cdot (\text{tr}(\nabla Q^{(n)} \nabla Q^{(n)}) - \frac{1}{d} |\nabla Q^{(n)}|^2 Id)) \\ + L \mathcal{P} (\nabla \cdot J_n (Q^{(n)} \Delta Q^{(n)} - \Delta Q^{(n)} Q^{(n)})) + \nu \Delta u^n \end{array} \right. \quad (22)$$

where  $\bar{H}^{(n)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} L \Delta Q^{(n)} - a Q^{(n)} + b [J_n (Q^{(n)} Q^{(n)}) - \frac{\text{tr}(J_n (Q^{(n)} Q^{(n)}))}{d} Id] - c J_n \left( Q^{(n)} \text{tr} (J_n (Q^{(n)} Q^{(n)})) \right)$ .

We can argue as in the proof of the apriori estimates and the same estimates hold for the approximating system (22). These estimates allow us to conclude that  $T_n = \infty$  and we also get the following apriori bounds:

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_n \|Q^{(n)}\|_{L^2(0, T; H^2) \cap L^\infty(0, T; H^1)} &< \infty \\ \sup_n \|u^n\|_{L^\infty(0, T; L^2) \cap L^2(0, T; H^1)} &< \infty \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

for any  $T < \infty$ .

The pair  $(Q^{(n)}, u^n)$  is also a weak solution of the approximating system (22) hence for every compactly supported  $\varphi \in C^\infty([0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^d; S_0^{(d)})$ ,  $\psi \in C^\infty([0, \infty) + \times \mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$  with  $\nabla \cdot \psi = 0$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (-Q^{(n)} \cdot \partial_t \varphi - \Gamma L \Delta Q^{(n)} \cdot \varphi) - J_n (Q^{(n)} \cdot u^n) \nabla_x \varphi - J_n \left( (\xi D^n + \Omega^n)(Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) \right) \cdot \varphi \, dx \, dt \\ & - \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} J_n \left( (Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id)(\xi D^n - \Omega^n) \right) \cdot \varphi - 2\xi J_n \left( (Q^{(n)} + \frac{1}{d} Id) \text{tr} J_n (Q^{(n)} \nabla u^n) \right) \cdot \varphi \, dx \, dt \\ & = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \bar{Q}(x) \cdot \varphi(0, x) \, dx + \Gamma \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ -a Q^{(n)} + b [J_n (Q^{(n)})^2 - \frac{\text{tr}(J_n (Q^{(n)})^2)}{d} Id] - c J_n \left( Q^{(n)} \text{tr} (J_n (Q^{(n)})^2) \right) \right\} \cdot \varphi \, dx \, dt \quad (24) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} -u^n \partial_t \psi - J_n(u_\alpha^n u_\beta^n) \partial_\alpha \psi_\beta + \nu \nabla u^n \nabla \psi \, dx dt - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \bar{u}(x) \psi(0, x) \, dx \\
&= L \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ J_n \left( Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha}^{(n)} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta}^{(n)} \right) \psi_{\alpha,\beta} - J_n \left( Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)} - \nu \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} Q_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)} \right) \psi_{\alpha,\beta} \right\} \, dx dt \\
&+ \xi \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ J_n \left( \left( Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\gamma}}{d} \right) \bar{H}_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)} \right) \psi_{\alpha,\beta} + J_n \left( \bar{H}_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} \left( Q_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)} + \frac{\delta_{\gamma\beta}}{d} \right) \right) \psi_{\alpha,\beta} \right\} \, dx dt \\
&\quad - 2\xi \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ J_n \left( \left( Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)} + \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{d} \right) J_n(Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} \bar{H}_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)}) \right) \psi_{\alpha,\beta} \right\} \, dx dt
\end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

We consider the solutions of (22) and taking into account the bounds (23) we get, by classical compactness and weak convergence arguments, that there exists a  $Q \in L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; H^1) \cap L_{loc}^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^2)$  and a  $u \in L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; L^2) \cap L_{loc}^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^1)$  so that, on a subsequence, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
Q^{(n)} &\rightharpoonup Q \text{ in } L^2(0, T; H^2) \text{ and } Q^{(n)} \rightarrow Q \text{ in } L^2(0, T; H_{loc}^{2-\varepsilon}), \forall \varepsilon > 0 \\
Q^{(n)}(t) &\rightharpoonup Q(t) \text{ in } H^1 \text{ for all } t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \\
u^n &\rightharpoonup u \text{ in } L^2(0, T; H^1) \text{ and } u^n \rightarrow u \text{ in } L^2(0, T; H_{loc}^{1-\varepsilon}), \forall \varepsilon > 0 \\
u^n(t) &\rightharpoonup u(t) \text{ in } L^2 \text{ for all } t \in \mathbb{R}_+
\end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

These convergences allow us to the pass to the limit in the weak solutions (24),(25) to obtain a weak solution of (4), namely (20),(21). Of all the terms there are only two types of terms that are slightly difficult to treat in passing to the limit. A first type is a term in (25), namely

$$L \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} J_n \left( Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)} - \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} Q_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)} \right) \psi_{\alpha,\beta} \, dx dt = L \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)} - \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} Q_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)} \right) \cdot J_n \psi_{\alpha,\beta} \, dx dt.$$

Recalling that  $\psi$  is compactly supported we have that there exists a time  $T > 0$  so that  $\psi(t, x) = J_n \psi(t, x) = 0, \forall t > T, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Taking into account that  $\psi$  is compactly supported and the convergences (26) one can easily pass to the limit the terms  $\partial_\beta J_n \psi_\alpha Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)}$  and  $\partial_\beta J_n \psi_\alpha Q_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)}$  strongly in  $L^2(0, T; L^2)$ . Indeed we have:

$$\partial_\beta J_n \psi_\alpha Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} - \partial_\beta \psi_\alpha Q_{\alpha\gamma} = \underbrace{\left( \partial_\beta J_n \psi_\alpha - \partial_\beta \psi_\alpha \right) Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)}}_{\mathcal{I}} + \underbrace{\partial_\beta \psi_\alpha \left( Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)} - Q_{\alpha\gamma} \right)}_{\mathcal{II}} \tag{27}$$

and the first term,  $\mathcal{I}$ , converges to 0, strongly in  $L^2(0, T; L^2)$  because  $\psi$  is smooth and compactly supported, hence  $\partial_\beta J_n \psi - \partial_\beta \psi$  converges to zero in any  $L^q(0, T; L^p)$  and  $Q^{(n)}$  is bounded in  $L^\infty$  in time and  $L^p$  in space ( $1 < p < \infty$  if  $d = 2$  and  $2 \leq p \leq 6$  if  $d = 3$ , due to the bounds (23)). On the other hand the second term  $\mathcal{II}$  converges strongly to zero in  $L^2(0, T; L^2)$  because of (26) and the fact that  $\psi$  is compactly supported.

Relations (26) give that  $\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}^{(n)}, \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)}$  converges weakly in  $L^2(0, T; L^2)$ . Thus we get convergence to the limit term

$$\begin{aligned}
& L \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta})(\partial_\beta \psi_\alpha Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \, dx dt - L \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma})(\partial_\beta \psi_\alpha Q_{\gamma\beta}) \, dx dt \\
&= L \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta})(\partial_\beta \psi_\alpha Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \, dx dt - L \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma})(\partial_\beta \psi_\alpha Q_{\gamma\beta}) \, dx dt.
\end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

Another type of term that could cause difficulties in passing to the limit is a part of the term in last line of (25) namely

$$\int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ J_n \left( Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)} J_n(Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)}) \right) \psi_{\alpha,\beta} \right\} \, dx dt = \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} J_n \left( J_n \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)} \right) \, dx dt \tag{29}$$

In order to treat this term we claim first that

$$\|Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} J_n \left( J_n \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)} \right) - Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} J_n \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)} \|_{L^2(0,T;L^2)} \rightarrow 0 \quad (30)$$

Indeed we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} J_n \left( J_n \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)} \right) - Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} J_n \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)} \|_{L^2(0,T;L^2)} &\leq \|Q^{(n)}\|_{L^\infty(0,T;L^4)} \|J_n - Id\|_{L^4 \rightarrow L^4} \|J_n(\nabla\psi) Q^{(n)}\|_{L^2(0,T;L^4)} \\ &\leq \|Q^{(n)}\|_{L^\infty(0,T;L^4)} \|J_n - Id\|_{L^4 \rightarrow L^4} \|J_n(\nabla\psi)\|_{L^\infty(0,T;L^{12})} \|Q^{(n)}\|_{L^2(0,T;L^6)} \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

where we denoted  $\|J_n - Id\|_{L^4 \rightarrow L^4}$  the norm of the operator  $J_n - Id$  acting on  $L^4$  and used the fact that this norm converges to zero, together with the bounds (23). Thus we have the claim (30).

Using a decomposition as in (27) with  $Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)}$  instead of  $Q_{\alpha\gamma}^{(n)}$  we get that  $Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} J_n \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)}$  converges strongly, in  $L^2(0,T;L^2)$  to  $Q_{\gamma\delta} \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}$ . This, together with (30) ensures that

$$\|Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)} J_n \left( J_n \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)} \right) - Q_{\gamma\delta} \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2(0,T;L^2)} \rightarrow 0 \quad (32)$$

Relations (26) give that  $\Delta Q_{\gamma\delta}^{(n)}$ , converges weakly in  $L^2(0,T;L^2)$ . Thus we get convergence to the limit term

$$\int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\gamma\delta} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta} \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta} dx dt = \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q_{\gamma\delta} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta} \psi_{\alpha,\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta} dx dt \quad (33)$$

□

## 4 Higher regularity in 2D, using the dissipation principle

In this section we restrict ourselves to dimension two and show that starting from an initial data with some higher regularity, we can obtain more regular solutions. More precisely, we have:

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $s > 0$  and  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{u}) \in H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^2) \times H^s(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . There exists a global a solution  $(Q(t,x), u(t,x))$  of the system (4), with restriction (7), subject to initial conditions*

$$Q(0,x) = \bar{Q}(x), u(0,x) = \bar{u}(x)$$

and  $Q \in L^2_{loc}(\mathbb{R}_+; H^{s+2}(\mathbb{R}^2)) \cap L^\infty_{loc}(\mathbb{R}_+; H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^2))$ ,  $u \in L^2_{loc}(\mathbb{R}_+; H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^2)) \cap L^\infty_{loc}(\mathbb{R}_+; H^s)$ . Moreover, we have:

$$L \|\nabla Q(t, \cdot)\|_{H^s(\mathbb{R}^2)}^2 + \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{H^s(\mathbb{R}^2)}^2 \leq C \left( e + \|\bar{Q}\|_{H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^2)} + \|\bar{u}\|_{H^s(\mathbb{R}^2)} \right)^{e^{e^{Ct}}} \quad (34)$$

where the constant  $C$  depends only on  $\bar{Q}, \bar{u}, a, b, c, \Gamma$  and  $L$ . If  $\xi = 0$  the increase in time of the norms above can be made to be only doubly exponential.

The proof of the theorem is mainly based on  $H^s$  energy estimates and the following cancelation (that is also used implicitly in showing the dissipation of the energy in Proposition 1):

**Lemma 1.** *For any symmetric matrices  $Q', Q \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  and  $\Omega_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2}(u_{\alpha,\beta} - u_{\beta,\alpha}) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  (decaying fast enough at infinity so that we can integrate by parts, in the formula below, without boundary terms) we have:*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}((\Omega Q' - Q' \Omega) \Delta Q) dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_\beta (Q'_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} - \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} Q'_{\gamma\beta}) u_\alpha dx = 0$$

**Proof.** We note that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}((\Omega Q' - Q' \Omega) \Delta Q) dx &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \Omega_{\alpha\gamma} Q'_{\gamma\beta} \Delta Q_{\beta\alpha} - Q'_{\alpha\gamma} \Omega_{\gamma\beta} \Delta Q_{\beta\alpha} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \Omega_{\alpha\gamma} Q'_{\gamma\beta} \Delta Q_{\beta\alpha} + \Omega_{\beta\gamma} Q'_{\gamma\alpha} \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} \\ &= 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \text{tr}(\Omega Q' \Delta Q) dx = \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_{\alpha,\beta} Q'_{\beta\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\alpha} dx}_{\mathcal{I}_1} - \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u_{\beta,\alpha} Q'_{\beta\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\alpha} dx}_{\mathcal{I}_2} \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

and on the other hand

$$-\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_\beta(Q'_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}) u_\alpha = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q'_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \partial_\beta u_\alpha = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q'_{\beta\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\alpha} \partial_\alpha u_\beta = I_2$$

and also

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_\beta(\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} Q'_{\gamma\beta}) u_\alpha = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} Q'_{\beta\gamma} \Delta Q_{\gamma\alpha} \partial_\beta u_\alpha = -I_1$$

which finishes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 1.** The main point in the proof of the theorem is to use the previous lemma to eliminate the highest derivatives in  $u$  in the first equation of the system (4) and the highest derivatives in  $Q$  in the second equation of the system. The proof could have been done, alternatively, by differentiating the equations  $k \geq 1$  times and using the previous lemma. However that would have required estimating some delicate commutators and would have restricted the initial data to  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{u}) \in H^2 \times H^1$ . The Littlewood-Paley approach that we use allows for  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{u}) \in H^{s+1} \times H^s$  with  $s > 0$ .

In order to prove the theorem we need to introduce some technical preliminaries:

#### 4.1 Littlewood-Paley theory

We define  $\mathcal{C}$  to be the ring of center 0, of small radius 1/2 and great radius 2. There exist two nonnegative radial functions  $\chi$  and  $\varphi$  belonging respectively to  $\mathcal{D}(B(0,1))$  and to  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C})$  so that

$$\chi(\xi) + \sum_{q \geq 0} \varphi(2^{-q}\xi) = 1, \forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad (36)$$

$$|p - q| \geq 2 \Rightarrow \text{Supp } \varphi(2^{-q}\cdot) \cap \text{Supp } \varphi(2^{-p}\cdot) = \emptyset. \quad (37)$$

For instance, one can take  $\chi \in \mathcal{D}(B(0,1))$  such that  $\chi \equiv 1$  on  $B(0,1/2)$  and take

$$\varphi(\xi) = \chi(\xi/2) - \chi(\xi).$$

Then, we are able to define the Littlewood-Paley decomposition. Let us denote by  $\mathcal{F}$  the Fourier transform on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Let  $h, \tilde{h}, \Delta_q, S_q$  ( $q \in \mathbb{Z}$ ) be defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} h &= \mathcal{F}^{-1}\varphi \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{h} = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\chi, \\ \Delta_q u &= \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\varphi(2^{-q}\xi)\mathcal{F}u) = 2^{qd} \int h(2^q y)u(x-y)dy, \\ S_q u &= \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\chi(2^{-q}\xi)\mathcal{F}u) = 2^{qd} \int \tilde{h}(2^q y)u(x-y)dy. \end{aligned}$$

We recall that for two appropriately smooth functions  $a$  and  $b$  we have Bony's paraproduct decomposition [2]:

$$ab = T_a b + T_b a + R(a, b) \quad (38)$$

where

$$T_a b = \sum_{q'} S_{q'-1} a \Delta_{q'} b, \quad T_b a = \sum_{q'} S_{q'-1} b \Delta_{q'} a \quad \text{and} \quad R(a, b) = \sum_{\substack{q' \\ i \in \{0, \pm 1\}}} \Delta_{q'} a \Delta_{q'+i} b.$$

Then we have

$$\Delta_q(ab) = \Delta_q T_a b + \Delta_q T_b a + \Delta_q R(a, b) = \Delta_q T_a b + \Delta_q \tilde{R}(a, b) \quad (39)$$

where  $\tilde{R}(a, b) = T_b a + R(a, b) = \Sigma_{q'} S_{q'+2} b \Delta_{q'} a$ . Moreover:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_q(ab) &= \Sigma_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \Delta_q(S_{q'-1} a \Delta_{q'} b) + \Sigma_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2} b \Delta_{q'} a) \\ &= \Sigma_{|q'-q| \leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} a] \Delta_{q'} b + \Sigma_{|q'-q| \leq 5} S_{q'-1} a \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} b + \Sigma_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2} b \Delta_{q'} a) \\ &= \Sigma_{|q'-q| \leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} a] \Delta_{q'} b + \Sigma_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} a - S_{q-1} a) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} b \\ &\quad + \Sigma_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2} b \Delta_{q'} a) + \underbrace{\Sigma_{|q'-q| \leq 5} S_{q-1} a \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} b}_{= S_{q-1} a \Delta_q b} \\ &= S_{q-1} a \Delta_q b \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

In terms of this decomposition we can express the Sobolev norm of an element  $u$  in the space  $H^s$  as:

$$\|u\|_{H^s} = \left( \|S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2 + \sum_{q \in \mathbb{N}} 2^{2qs} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2}^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

We will use the following well-known estimates:

**Lemma 2.** ([10],[11]) (i) (Bernstein inequalities)

$$2^{-q} \|\nabla S_q u\|_{L^p} \leq C \|u\|_{L^p}, \quad \forall 1 \leq p \leq \infty$$

$$\|\Delta_q u\|_{L^p} \leq C 2^{-q} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^p} \leq C \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^p}, \quad \forall 1 \leq p \leq \infty$$

(ii) (Bernstein inequalities)

$$\|\Delta_q u\|_{L^b} \leq 2^{d(\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{b})q} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^a}, \quad \text{for } b \geq a \geq 1$$

$$\|S_q u\|_{L^b} \leq 2^{d(\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{b})q} \|S_q u\|_{L^a}, \quad \text{for } b \geq a \geq 1$$

(ii) (commutator estimate)

$$\|[\Delta_q, u]v\|_{L^p} \leq C 2^{-q} \|\nabla u\|_{L^r} \|v\|_{L^s} \quad (41)$$

with  $\frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{s}$ . The constant  $C$  depends only on the function  $\varphi$  used in defining  $\Delta_q$  but not on  $p, r, s$ .

Proof: For the commutator estimate we begin by writing

$$\begin{aligned} [\Delta_q, u]v(x) &= \Delta_q(uv)(x) - u(x) \Delta_q v(x) = 2^{qd} \int h(2^q y) (u(x-y) - u(x)) v(x-y) dy \\ &= -2^{qd} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_0^1 h(2^q y) y \nabla u(x - \tau y) v(x-y) dy d\tau \\ &= -2^{-q} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times [0,1]} \tilde{h}_{2^q}(y) \nabla u(x - \tau y) v(x-y) dy d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{h}(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} y h(y) \in \mathcal{S}(R^d)^d$  and  $\tilde{h}_\lambda(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda^d \tilde{h}(\lambda y)$ . Using the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality and a change of variables, we get

$$\begin{aligned} |[\Delta_q, u]v(x)| &\leq 2^{-q} \int_0^1 \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\tilde{h}_{2^q}(y)| |\nabla u(x - \tau y)|^{\frac{r}{p}} dy \right)^{\frac{p}{r}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\tilde{h}_{2^q}(y)| |v(x-y)|^{\frac{s}{p}} dy \right)^{\frac{p}{s}} d\tau \\ &= 2^{-q} \int_0^1 \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\tilde{h}_{2^q \tau^{-1}}(y)| |\nabla u(x-y)|^{\frac{r}{p}} dy \right)^{\frac{p}{r}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\tilde{h}_{2^q}(y)| |v(x-y)|^{\frac{s}{p}} dy \right)^{\frac{p}{s}} d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the  $L^p$  norm in the  $x$  variable, using the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality in the  $x$  variable and convolution estimates we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|[\Delta_q, u]v\|_{L^p} &\leq 2^{-q} \left( \int_0^1 \|\tilde{h}_{2^q\tau-1} \star |\nabla u|^{\frac{r}{p}}\|_{L^p}^{\frac{p}{r}} d\tau \right) \| |\tilde{h}_{2^q}| \star |v|^{\frac{s}{p}} \|_{L^p}^{\frac{p}{s}} \\ &\leq 2^{-q} \|\tilde{h}\|_{L^1} \|\nabla u\|_{L^r} \|v\|_{L^s}, \end{aligned}$$

so the constant in the inequality is  $C = \|\tilde{h}\|_{L^1}$  and it does not depend on  $p, r, s$ .

## 4.2 Proof of theorem 1

*Step 1. Estimates of the high frequencies*

We apply  $\Delta_q$  to the first equation in (4) and use the decomposition (40) to expand  $\Delta_q(\Omega_{\alpha\gamma}Q_{\gamma\beta})$ ,  $\Delta_q(D_{\alpha\gamma}Q_{\gamma\beta})$  (and  $\Delta_q(Q_{\alpha\gamma}\Omega_{\gamma\beta})$ ,  $\Delta_q(Q_{\alpha\gamma}D_{\gamma\beta})$ ) as  $\Delta_q\Omega_{\alpha\gamma}S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}$ ,  $S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}\Delta_qD_{\alpha\gamma}$  (respectively  $S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta_q\Omega_{\gamma\beta}$ ,  $S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta_qD_{\gamma\beta}$ ) plus corrections. We also expand  $\Delta_q(Q_{\alpha\beta}\text{tr}(Q\nabla u))$  as  $S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta}S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\delta}\Delta_qu_{\gamma,\delta}$  plus corrections (by applying the formula (40) twice) and we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} - \Gamma L \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} - \Delta_q \Omega_{\alpha\gamma} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} + S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q \Omega_{\gamma\beta} - \xi S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q D_{\alpha\gamma} - \xi S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q D_{\gamma\beta} \\ - \xi \Delta_q D_{\alpha\beta} + 2\xi S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\delta} \Delta_q u_{\gamma,\delta} + \xi \delta_{\alpha\beta} \Delta_q (\text{tr}(Q\nabla u)) = (\mathcal{T}_Q)_{\alpha\beta} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{T}_Q$  denotes the sum of the correction terms mentioned before together with some other terms that are easy to estimate using the apriori bounds in Proposition 2. These terms are described in the Appendix A.

Multiplying the previous equation by  $-L\Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}$  and integrating over  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and by parts we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{L}{2} \partial_t \|\nabla \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \Gamma L^2 \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2}^2 + L \int \Delta_q \Omega_{\alpha\gamma} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} - L \int S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q \Omega_{\gamma\beta} \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} \\ + L\xi \int S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q D_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} + L\xi \int S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q D_{\gamma\beta} \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} \\ + L\xi \int \Delta_q D_{\alpha\beta} \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} - 2L\xi \int S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\delta} \Delta_q u_{\gamma,\delta} = \left( -L\Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}, (\mathcal{T}_Q)_{\alpha\beta} \right) \quad (42) \end{aligned}$$

where the terms on the right hand side are described in the Appendix A.

We apply  $\Delta_q$  to the second equation in (4) and use the decomposition (40) to expand  $\Delta_q(Q_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta})$  (respectively  $\Delta_q(\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}Q_{\gamma\beta})$ ) as  $S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta_q\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}$  (respectively  $\Delta_q\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}$ ) plus correction terms. We also expand  $\Delta_q(Q_{\alpha\beta}\text{tr}(Q\Delta Q))$  as  $S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta}S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\delta}\Delta_q\Delta Q_{\gamma\delta}$  plus corrections (by applying the formula (40) twice) and we get:

we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \Delta_q u_\alpha - \nu \Delta \Delta_q u_\alpha = \partial_\alpha \Delta_q p + L \partial_\beta (S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} - \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta}) \\ - L\xi \partial_\beta (S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} + \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} - 2S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\delta} \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\gamma\delta}) \\ - \xi \partial_\beta (L \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} - \delta_{\alpha\beta} \Delta_q (\text{tr}(QH)) + (\mathcal{T}_u)_\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{T}_u$  denotes the sum of the correction terms mentioned before together with some other terms that are easy to estimate using the apriori bounds in Proposition 2. These term are described in the Appendix A.

We multiply the last equation by  $\Delta_q u_\alpha$ , integrate over  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and by parts to obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \partial_t \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2}^2 + \nu \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + L \int S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} - L \int \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \\ - L\xi \left( \int S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} + \int \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} - 2 \int S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\delta} \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right) \\ - \xi L \int \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} = \left( (\mathcal{T}_u)_\alpha, \Delta_q u_\alpha \right) \quad (43) \end{aligned}$$

Summing (42) and (43) and using Lemma 1 we get:

$$\partial_t \left( \frac{L}{2} \|\nabla \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2}^2 \right) + \nu \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \Gamma L^2 \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2}^2 = \left( -L \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}, (\mathcal{T}_Q)_{\alpha\beta} \right) + \left( (\mathcal{T}_u)_\alpha, \Delta_q u_\alpha \right)$$

We denote by  $\varphi(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} L \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2 + \|u\|_{H^s}^2$  with  $\varphi_1(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} L \|S_0 \nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2$  the low-frequency part of  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi_2(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \varphi(t) - \varphi_1(t)$  the high-frequency part of  $\varphi$ .

The last inequality leads to the following estimate, that holds for any  $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$  and whose technical proof is postponed to Appendix B:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_2 + \sum_{q \in \mathbb{N}} 2^{2qs} \left( \frac{\Gamma L^2}{2} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{\nu}{2} \|\nabla \Delta_q u\|_{L^2}^2 \right) \\ & \leq C \left( 1 + \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 \right) (\|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2 + \|u\|_{H^s}^2) \\ & \quad + C (\|Q\|_{L^2} + \|Q\|_{L^4}^2)^2 \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2 \\ & + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{50} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\nu}{50} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^2 + \xi^2 C \left( 1 + \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 \right) (\|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2 + \|u\|_{H^s}^2) \\ & \quad + \xi^2 C \left( (1 + \|Q\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2 + \sum_{j=2}^5 \|Q\|_{L^{2(j-1)}}^{2(j-1)} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2 \right) \\ & \quad + \xi^2 C (\|\nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty})^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \|u\|_{H^s}^2 \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

where the constant  $C$  is independent of  $\xi$ .

### Step 2. Estimates of the low frequencies

This is much easier than the previous step. We apply the operator  $S_0$  to the first equation in (4), multiply by  $-LS_0 \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}$ , take the trace, integrate over  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and by parts and we get:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{L}{2} \partial_t \|S_0 \nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \Gamma L^2 \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \|u\|_{L^4} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2} + C \|S_0(Q \nabla u)\|_{L^2} \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2} \\ & \quad + L \|S_0(-aQ + b[Q^2 - \frac{\text{tr}(Q^2)}{3} Id] - cQ \text{tr}(Q^2))\|_{L^2} \|S_0 \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \\ & + C \xi \|S_0(\nabla u Q)\|_{L^2} \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2} + C \xi \|S_0(\nabla u)\|_{L^2} \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2} + C \xi \|S_0(Q^2 \nabla u)\|_{L^2} \|S_0 \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \\ & \leq C \|u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2} + C \|Q \nabla u\|_{L^1} \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2} \\ & \quad + C \| -aQ + b[Q^2 - \frac{\text{tr}(Q^2)}{3} Id] - cQ \text{tr}(Q^2) \|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{100} \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2}^2 \\ & \quad + C \xi^2 (\|\nabla u Q\|_{L^1}^2 + \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q^2 \nabla u\|_{L^1}^2) \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{L}{2} \partial_t \|S_0 \nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{2} \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2}^2 \leq C \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \\ & \quad + C (\|Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^4}^4 + \|Q\|_{L^6}^6) + C \xi^2 (1 + \|Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^4}^4) \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

We apply  $S_0$  to the second equation in (4), multiply by  $S_0 u$  and integrate over  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and by parts to obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \partial_t \|S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2 + \nu \|\nabla S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2 &\leq \|S_0(u \nabla u)\|_{L^2} \|S_0 u\|_{L^2} + C \|S_0(\nabla Q \Delta Q)\|_{L^2} \|S_0 u\|_{L^2} + C \|S_0(Q \Delta Q)\|_{L^2} \|S_0 \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\
&\quad + C \xi \|S_0((Q + Q^2)(L \Delta Q - aQ + b[Q^2 - \frac{\text{tr}(Q^2)}{3} Id] - cQ \text{tr}(Q^2)))\|_{L^2} \|S_0 \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\
&\quad + C \xi \|S_0(L \Delta Q - aQ + b[Q^2 - \frac{\text{tr}(Q^2)}{3} Id] - cQ \text{tr}(Q^2))\|_{L^2} \|S_0 \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq C \|u \nabla u\|_{L^1}^2 + C \|S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla Q \Delta Q\|_{L^1}^2 + C \|S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|Q \Delta Q\|_{L^1}^2 + \frac{\nu}{2} \|S_0 \nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \\
&\quad + C \xi^2 \left[ (1 + \|Q\|_{L^2} + \|Q\|_{L^4}^4) \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \sum_{j=2}^5 \|Q\|_{L^j}^j \right]
\end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \partial_t \|S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{\nu}{2} \|\nabla S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2 &\leq C \|u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + C \|S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2 \\
&\quad + C \xi^2 \left[ (1 + \|Q\|_{L^2} + \|Q\|_{L^4}^4) \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \sum_{j=2}^5 \|Q\|_{L^j}^j \right] \quad (46)
\end{aligned}$$

Summing (45) and (46) we obtain:

$$\partial_t \varphi_1 + \frac{\nu}{2} \|\nabla S_0 u\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{2} \|\Delta S_0 Q\|_{L^2}^2 \leq C \varphi + m(t) + \xi^2 n(t) \quad (47)$$

where

$$m(t) \stackrel{def}{=} C \left( \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^4}^4 + \|Q\|_{L^6}^6 \right)$$

and

$$n(t) \stackrel{def}{=} (1 + \|Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^4}^4) \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + (1 + \|Q\|_{L^2} + \|Q\|_{L^4}^4) \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \sum_{j=2}^5 \|Q\|_{L^j}^j$$

*Step 3. The estimates of the high norms*

Summing (44) and (47) we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \varphi'(t) &\leq C \underbrace{\left( 1 + \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q\|_{L^4}^4 \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} u(t)} \varphi(t) + m(t) \\
&\quad + C \xi^2 \underbrace{\left( 1 + \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^4 \|Q\|_{L^{2j}}^{2j} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} v(t)} \varphi(t) \\
&\quad + \xi^2 C \|Q\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \varphi(t) + \xi^2 C \left( \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \right)^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \varphi(t) + \xi^2 n(t)
\end{aligned}$$

where  $u(t), v(t), m(t)$  and  $n(t)$  are, by Proposition 2, a priori bounded in  $L^2(0, T)$ , and increasing exponentially in time.

If  $\xi = 0$  the above estimates together with Gronwall's lemma show that  $\varphi$  increases like  $e^{c^t}$  for an appropriate constant  $c > 0$ .

In the general case, when  $\xi \neq 0$  we start by recalling use a fundamental ingredient in the global existence, namely the logarithmic estimate (see [4]), for  $s > 0$ ,

$$\|Q\|_{L^\infty} \leq \|Q\|_{H^1} \sqrt{\ln(e + \frac{\|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2}{\|Q\|_{H^1}})},$$

and be denoting  $f(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \|Q\|_{H^1}^2$  and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi'(t) &\leq C(u(t) + \xi v(t))\varphi(t) + m(t) \\ &+ \xi C f(t) \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \ln(e + \frac{\varphi(t)}{\sqrt{f(t)}}) \varphi(t) + \xi C (\|\nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty})^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \varphi(t) + \xi^2 n(t) \end{aligned}$$

Observing that the function  $h(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x \ln(e + \frac{\varphi}{\sqrt{x}})$  is increasing the last relation implies:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi'(t) &\leq C(u(t) + \xi v(t))\varphi(t) + m(t) \\ &+ \xi C(1 + f(t)) \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \varphi(t) (\ln(e + \varphi(t))) + \xi C (\|\nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty})^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \varphi(t) + \xi^2 n(t) \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

On the other hand, by using the interpolation inequality (see [5], and also [24], Lemma 10):

$$\|g\|_{L^{2p}} \leq C \sqrt{p} \|g\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{p}} \|\nabla g\|_{L^2}^{1-\frac{1}{p}} \quad (49)$$

we get:

$$\|\nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}}^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \leq \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{1-\varepsilon}} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{2\varepsilon}{1-\varepsilon}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{1-\varepsilon}} (1 + \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^2) \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2$$

where for the last inequality we assumed  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ .

Then (48) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi'(t) &\leq C(u(t) + \xi v(t))\varphi(t) + m(t) \\ &+ \xi C(1 + f(t)) \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \varphi(t) (\ln(e + \varphi(t))) + \xi^2 n(t) \\ &+ \xi C(1 + f(t)) \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 [(1 + f(t)) \ln(e + \varphi(t))]^{\frac{1}{1-\varepsilon}} \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{1-\varepsilon}} \varphi(t) \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

Observing that the constants in the interpolation inequality (49) and in the commutator estimate (41) do not depend on the space  $L^p$  that we work with and denoting  $N \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \ln(e + \varphi)$  we choose

$$\varepsilon \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (1 + \ln N)^{-1}$$

and observing that  $[N(1 + \ln N)]^{1+\frac{1}{\ln N}} \leq CN(1 + \ln N)$  for some constant  $C$  independent of  $N$ , the last inequality becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi'(t) &\leq C(u(t) + \xi v(t))\varphi(t) + m(t) \\ &+ \xi C(1 + f(t)) \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 \varphi(t) (\ln(e + \varphi(t))) + \xi^2 n(t) \\ &+ \xi C(1 + f(t))^3 \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 \varphi(t) \ln(e + \varphi(t)) \left(1 + \ln(e + \ln(\varphi(t) + e))\right) \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

□

## 5 Weak-Strong uniqueness in 2D

In this section we consider a global weak solution and a strong one, starting from the same initial data  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{u}) \in H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^2) \times H^s(\mathbb{R}^2)$  with  $s > 0$  and we show that they are the same. More precisely:

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{u}) \in H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^2) \times H^s(\mathbb{R}^2)$  with  $s > 0$ . By Proposition 3 there exists a weak solution  $(Q_1, u_1)$  of the system (4), subject to restriction (7) and starting from initial data  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{u})$ , such that*

$$Q_1 \in L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)) \cap L_{loc}^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^2(\mathbb{R}^2)) \text{ and } u_1 \in L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)) \cap L_{loc}^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)) \quad (52)$$

*Theorem 1 gives the existence of a strong solution  $(Q_2, u_2)$  such that*

$$Q_2 \in L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^2)) \cap L_{loc}^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^{s+2}(\mathbb{R}^2)) \text{ and } u_2 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; H^s(\mathbb{R}^2)) \cap L^2(\mathbb{R}_+; H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^2)) \quad (53)$$

with  $s > 0$  and the same initial data  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{u}) \in H^{s+1}(\mathbb{R}^2) \times H^s(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . Then  $(Q_1, u_1) = (Q_2, u_2)$ .

**Proof.** We denote by  $\delta Q = Q_1 - Q_2$  and  $\delta u = u_1 - u_2$  which verify the following system

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\partial_t + \delta u \nabla) \delta Q - \delta \Omega \delta Q + \delta Q \delta \Omega + \delta u \nabla \delta Q + u_2 \nabla \delta Q + Q_2 \delta \Omega + \delta Q \Omega_2 - \delta \Omega Q_2 - \Omega_2 \delta Q \\ - \xi [\delta D \delta Q + \delta Q \delta D + \delta D - 2(\delta Q + \frac{1}{2} Id) \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla \delta u)] \\ - \xi [\delta D Q_2 + D_2 \delta Q + \delta Q D_2 + Q_2 \delta D - \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla u_2) Id - \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla \delta u) Id] \\ - 2\xi [\delta Q \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla u_2) + \delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla \delta u) + \delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla u_2) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla \delta u) + Q_2 \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla \delta u)] \\ = \Gamma \left( L \Delta \delta Q - a \delta Q + b [\delta Q Q_1 + Q_2 \delta Q - \frac{\text{tr}(\delta Q Q_1 + Q_2 \delta Q)}{2} Id] - c \delta Q \text{tr}(Q_1^2) - c Q_2 [\text{tr}(Q_1 \delta Q + \delta Q Q_2)] \right) \\ \partial_t \delta u + \mathcal{P}(\delta u \nabla \delta u) = \nu \Delta \delta u - L \mathcal{P}(\nabla \cdot (\nabla \delta Q \nabla \delta Q - \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \delta Q|^2)) + L \mathcal{P}(\nabla \cdot (\delta Q \Delta \delta Q - \Delta \delta Q \delta Q)) \\ - \xi \nabla \cdot [\delta Q \delta H + \delta H \delta Q + \delta H - 2(\delta Q + \frac{1}{2} Id) \text{tr}(\delta Q \delta H)] \\ - \mathcal{P}(u_2 \nabla \delta u + \delta u \nabla u_2) - L \mathcal{P} \left( \nabla \cdot \left( (\nabla \delta Q \nabla Q_2 + \nabla Q_2 \nabla \delta Q) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\nabla \delta Q \nabla Q_2 + Q_2 \nabla \delta Q) Id \right) \right) \\ - \xi \nabla \cdot [\delta Q H_2 + Q_2 \delta H + \delta H Q_2 + H_2 \delta Q - \text{tr}(\delta Q H_2) Id - (Q_2 \delta H) Id] \\ - 2\xi \nabla \cdot [\delta Q \text{tr}(\delta Q H_2) + \delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 \delta H) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q \delta H) + Q_2 \text{tr}(Q_2 \delta H) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q H_2) + \delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 H_2)] \\ + L \mathcal{P}(\nabla \cdot (\delta Q \Delta Q_2 + Q_2 \Delta \delta Q - \Delta \delta Q Q_2 - \Delta Q_2 \delta Q)) \end{array} \right.$$

We proceed similarly as in the proof of Proposition 1, namely we multiply the first equation in (54) to the right by  $-L \Delta \delta Q + \delta Q$ , integrate over  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and by parts, take the trace and sum with the second equation in (54) multiplied by  $\delta u$  and integrated over  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and by parts. Taking into account the cancellations analogous to the ones in (11) we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{L}{2} |\nabla \delta Q(x)|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\delta Q(x)|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\delta u(x)|^2 dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \nu |\nabla \delta u(x)|^2 + \Gamma L^2 |\Delta \delta Q(x)|^2 dx \\ &= L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr} \left( [\delta u \nabla Q_2 + u_2 \nabla \delta Q + \delta Q \Omega_2 - \Omega_2 \delta Q] \Delta \delta Q \right) dx + L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr} \left( [Q_2 \delta \Omega - \delta \Omega Q_2] \Delta \delta Q \right) dx}_{\mathcal{A}} \\ & \quad - \xi L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta D Q_2 + Q_2 \delta D] \Delta \delta Q dx}_{\mathcal{B}} - \xi L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [D_2 \delta Q + \delta Q D_2] \Delta \delta Q dx}_{\mathcal{B}} \\ & \quad - 2\xi L \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla \delta u) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla \delta u) + Q_2 \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla \delta u)] \Delta \delta Q dx}_{\mathcal{C}} \\ & \quad - 2\xi L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta Q \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla u_2) + \delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla u_2) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla u_2)] \Delta \delta Q dx \\ & \quad \quad + \xi \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta D Q_2 + D_2 \delta Q + \delta Q D_2 + Q_2 \delta D] \delta Q dx \\ &+ 2\xi \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta Q \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla u_2) + \delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla \delta u) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla \delta u) + \delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla u_2) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q \nabla u_2) + Q_2 \text{tr}(Q_2 \nabla \delta u)] \delta Q dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -a\Gamma L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |\nabla \delta Q(x)|^2 dx - b\Gamma L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr} \left( (\delta Q(x)Q_1(x) + Q_2(x)\delta Q(x)) \Delta \delta Q(x) \right) dx \\
& + c\Gamma L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(\delta Q \Delta \delta Q) \text{tr}(Q_1^2) dx + c\Gamma L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(Q_2 \Delta \delta Q) \text{tr}(Q_1 \delta Q + \delta Q Q_2) dx \\
& - \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(\delta u \nabla Q_2 \delta Q) dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(Q_2 \delta \Omega \delta Q) dx - \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(\delta Q \Omega_2 \delta Q) dx}_{\mathcal{I}} \\
& + \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(\delta \Omega Q_2 \delta Q) dx + \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(\Omega_2(\delta Q)^2) dx}_{\mathcal{II}} - \Gamma L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |\nabla Q|^2 dx \\
& - a\Gamma \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |\delta Q|^2 dx + b\Gamma \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(\delta Q Q_1 \delta Q + Q_2(\delta Q)^2) dx \\
& - c\Gamma \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(Q_1)^2 |\delta Q|^2 dx - c\Gamma \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \text{tr}(Q_2 \delta Q) \text{tr}(Q_1 \delta Q + \delta Q Q_2) dx \\
& - \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} (u_2 \nabla \delta u + \delta u \nabla u_2) \delta u dx + L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} (\nabla \delta Q \nabla Q_2 + \nabla Q_2 \nabla \delta Q) \cdot \nabla \delta u dx \\
& + \xi \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta Q \delta F + \delta F \delta Q + \delta F - 2\delta Q \text{tr}(\delta Q \delta F)] \cdot \nabla \delta u dx \\
& \underbrace{L\xi \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [Q_2 \delta \Delta Q + \delta \Delta Q Q_2] \cdot \nabla \delta u dx}_{\mathcal{BB}} + \xi \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [Q_2 \delta F + \delta F Q_2] \cdot \nabla \delta u dx \\
& + \xi \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta Q H_2 + H_2 \delta Q] \cdot \nabla \delta u dx \\
& + 2\xi L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 \delta \Delta Q) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q \delta \Delta Q) + Q_2 \text{tr}(Q_2 \delta \Delta Q)] \cdot \nabla \delta u dx \\
& + 2\xi \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 \delta F) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q \delta F) + Q_2 \text{tr}(Q_2 \delta F)] \cdot \nabla \delta u dx \\
& + 2\xi \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} [\delta Q \text{tr}(\delta Q H_2) + Q_2 \text{tr}(\delta Q H_2) + \delta Q \text{tr}(Q_2 H_2)] \cdot \nabla \delta u dx \\
& - L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} (\delta Q \Delta Q_2 - \Delta Q_2 \delta Q) \cdot \nabla \delta u dx - \underbrace{L \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} (Q_2 \Delta \delta Q - \Delta \delta Q Q_2) \cdot \nabla \delta u dx}_{\mathcal{AA}} \tag{54}
\end{aligned}$$

Let us observe that Lemma 1 implies  $\mathcal{A} - \mathcal{AA} = 0$  and that one can easily show  $\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{BB} = 0$  and  $\mathcal{C} - \mathcal{CC} = 0$ . Also  $\mathcal{I} + \mathcal{II} = 0$  and then we easily obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} (L \|\nabla \delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\delta u\|_{L^2}^2) + \Gamma L^2 \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \nu \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2}^2 \leq L \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\delta u\|_{L^4} \|\nabla Q_2\|_{L^4} \\
& + L \|u_2\|_{L^4} \|\nabla \delta Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2} + 2(1 + |\xi|) L \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{s}}} \|\Omega_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}} \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2} \\
& + 2|\xi| L \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{4}{s}}}^2 \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}} \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2} + 4|\xi| L \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{s}}} \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}} \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2} + |\xi| \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^2} \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2 \\
& + 2|\xi| \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{4}{s}}}^2 \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}} \|\delta Q\|_{L^2} + 2|\xi| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2 \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} + 2|\xi| \|u_2\|_{L^4} \|\delta Q\|_{L^8}^2 \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} \\
& + 4|\xi| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2 \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^2} + 2|\xi| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} \\
& + a|\Gamma L \|\nabla \delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + b|\Gamma L \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\delta Q\|_{L^4} \|Q_1\|_{L^4} + b|\Gamma L \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \|\delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2} \\
& + c\Gamma L \|\delta Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2} \|Q_1\|_{L^8}^2 + c\Gamma L \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2} (\|Q_1\|_{L^4} + \|Q_2\|_{L^4}) \|\delta Q\|_{L^4} \\
& + \|\nabla Q_2\|_{L^4} \|\delta u\|_{L^4} \|\delta Q\|_{L^2} + 2(1 + |\xi|) \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} \|\delta Q\|_{L^2}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \xi \left( \|\delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} + (\|Q_1\|_{L^4} + \|Q_2\|_{L^4}) \|\delta Q\|_{L^4} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} + (\|Q_1\|_{L^6}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^6}^2) \|\delta Q\|_{L^6} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} \right) \\
& + \xi \left( \sum_{j=1}^3 (\|Q_1\|_{L^{4j}}^j + \|Q_2\|_{L^{4j}}^j) \|\delta Q\|_{L^4} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} + \sum_{j=1}^3 (\|Q_1\|_{L^{6j}}^j + \|Q_2\|_{L^{6j}}^j) \|\delta Q\|_{L^6}^2 \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} \right) \\
& \quad + 4|\xi| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} (|a| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} + |b| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 + |c| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^3) \|\delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} \\
& \quad + |a| |\Gamma| \|\delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \Gamma(|b| + c \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}) (\|Q_1\|_{L^2} + \|Q_2\|_{L^2}) \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2 \\
& + 2|\xi| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \left( |a| \|\delta Q\|_{L^2} + (|b| (\|Q_1\|_{L^4} + \|Q_2\|_{L^4}) + |c| (\|Q_1\|_{L^8}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^8}^2 + \|Q_1\|_{L^8} \|Q_2\|_{L^8}) \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}) \right) \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} \\
& + 2|\xi| L \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{s}}} \|\Delta Q_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} + 2|\xi| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \left( |a| \|\delta Q\|_{L^2} + (|b| \|Q_2\|_{L^4} + |c| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \|Q_2\|_{L^4}) \|\delta Q\|_{L^4} \right) \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} \\
& \quad + 2|\xi| (\|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\delta Q\|_{L^4} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} + 2\|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \|\delta Q\|_{L^8}^2 \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2}) \times \\
& \quad \times \left[ |a| + |b| (\|Q_1\|_{L^4} + \|Q_2\|_{L^4}) + c (\|Q_1\|_{L^8}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^8}^2 + \|Q_1\|_{L^8} \|Q_2\|_{L^8}) \right] \\
& 2|\xi| L \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2 (|a| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} + |b| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 + |c| \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^3) + 4|\xi| L \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta Q_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}} \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{s}}} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} \\
& \quad + \|\delta u\|_{L^4}^2 \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^2} + 2L \|\nabla Q_2\|_{L^4} \|\nabla \delta Q\|_{L^4} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2} + 2L \|\Delta Q_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}} \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{s}}} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2}
\end{aligned}$$

Using that  $\|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{s}}} \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{s}} \|\delta Q\|_{L^2}^s \|\nabla \delta Q\|_{L^2}^{1-s}$  and  $\|\Omega_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}} \leq C \|u_2\|_{H^{1+s}}$ , we obtain the estimate by

$$\begin{aligned}
& \leq \frac{\nu}{2} \|\nabla \delta u\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{2} \|\Delta \delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + C \underbrace{\left( \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}}^2 + \|\nabla Q_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}}^2 \right)}_{\mathcal{J}_1} \|\delta u\|_{L^2}^2 \\
& + C \underbrace{\left( 1 + \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^4 + \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 + \|\nabla Q_2\|_{H^s}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{H^s}^2 + \|\Delta Q_2\|_{H^s}^2 \right)}_{\mathcal{J}_2} \|\delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + C \underbrace{\left( 1 + \|u_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 + \|\nabla Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 \right)}_{\mathcal{J}_3} \|\nabla \delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 \\
& + C \underbrace{\left( \|Q_1\|_{L^4}^2 + \|Q_1\|_{L^8}^4 + \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 (\|Q_1\|_{L^4}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^4}^2) + \Gamma(|b| + c \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}) (\|Q_1\|_{L^2} + \|Q_2\|_{L^2}) \right)}_{\mathcal{J}_4} \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2 \\
& \quad + C \underbrace{\left( 1 + \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^6 + \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^2}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2 \right)}_{\mathcal{J}_5} \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2 \\
& \underbrace{C \left( 1 + \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^4 \right) \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^3 (\|Q_1\|_{L^{4j}}^{2j} + \|Q_2\|_{L^{4j}}^{2j}) \right)}_{\mathcal{J}_6} \|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2 + C \underbrace{\left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^3 (\|Q_1\|_{L^{6j}}^{2j} + \|Q_2\|_{L^{6j}}^{2j}) \right)^2}_{\mathcal{J}_7} \|\delta Q\|_{L^6}^2 \\
& \underbrace{C \left( 1 + \|u_2\|_{L^4}^2 \|\delta Q\|_{L^8}^2 + \|\delta Q\|_{L^8}^2 (\|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^4) \left( 1 + \|Q_1\|_{L^4}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^4}^2 + \|Q_1\|_{L^8}^4 + \|Q_2\|_{L^8}^4 \right) \right)}_{\mathcal{J}_8} \|\delta Q\|_{L^8}^2 \\
& \underbrace{C (\|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\nabla u_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}}^2 + \|\Delta Q_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}}^2 + \|Q_2\|_{L^\infty}^2 \|\Delta Q_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}}^2)}_{\mathcal{J}_9} \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{s}}}^2 + C \underbrace{\|\nabla u_2\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-s}}}^2 (1 + \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{4}{s}}}^2)}_{\mathcal{J}_{10}} \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{4}{s}}}^2 \quad (55)
\end{aligned}$$

We are in  $2D$  so  $\|\delta Q\|_{L^4}^2, \|\delta Q\|_{L^6}^2, \|\delta Q\|_{L^8}^2, \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{4}{s}}}^2, \|\delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{s}}}^2$  are controlled by  $\|\delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla \delta Q\|_{L^2}^2$ . The hypothesis, namely relations (52) and (53), ensure that the terms  $\mathcal{J}_i, i = 1, \dots, 10$  are integrable in time (choosing  $\varepsilon > 0$  sufficiently small, depending on  $s$ ) thus using the last inequality and Gronwall Lemma we obtain the uniqueness of the solution.  $\square$

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## A The correction terms

For the Q-tensor equations we have the following correction terms:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{T}_Q &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -\Delta_q(u_\gamma Q_{\alpha\beta,\gamma}) + \Gamma \Delta_q[-aQ_{\alpha\beta} + b \left( Q_{\alpha\gamma}Q_{\gamma\beta} - \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{2} \text{tr}(Q^2) \right) - cQ_{\alpha\beta}\text{tr}(Q^2)] \\
&+ \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q; S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}] \Delta_{q'}\Omega_{\alpha\gamma} + \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'}\Omega_{\alpha\gamma} + \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2}\Omega_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\beta}) \\
&- \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q; S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}] \Delta_{q'}\Omega_{\gamma\beta} - \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'}\Omega_{\gamma\beta} - \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2}\Omega_{\gamma\beta}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \\
&+ \xi \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}] \Delta_{q'}D_{\alpha\gamma} + \xi \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'}D_{\alpha\gamma} + \xi \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2}D_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\beta}) \\
&+ \xi \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}] \Delta_{q'}D_{\gamma\beta} + \xi \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'}D_{\gamma\beta} + \xi \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2}D_{\gamma\beta}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \\
&- 2\xi \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\beta}] \Delta_{q'}\text{tr}(Q\nabla u) - 2\xi \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'}\text{tr}(Q\nabla u) \\
&\quad - 2\xi \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2}\text{tr}(Q\nabla u)\Delta_{q'}Q_{\alpha\beta}) \\
&- 2\xi S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} \left( \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\delta}] \Delta_{q'}u_{\gamma,\delta} + \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\delta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\delta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'}u_{\gamma,\delta} \right) \\
&\quad - 2\xi S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2}u_{\gamma,\delta}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\delta})
\end{aligned}$$

Then we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
(-L\Delta\Delta_Q Q_{\alpha\beta}, (\mathcal{T}_Q)_{\alpha\beta}) &= L \underbrace{(\Delta_q(u\nabla Q_{\alpha\beta}), \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_1} - L \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} ([\Delta_q; S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}] \Delta_{q'}\Omega_{\alpha\gamma}, \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_2} \\
&\quad - L \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} ((S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'}\Omega_{\alpha\gamma}, \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_3} \\
&\quad - L \underbrace{\sum_{q'>q-5} (\Delta_q (S_{q'+2}\Omega_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\beta}), \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_4} + L \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} ([\Delta_q; S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}] \Delta_{q'}\Omega_{\gamma\beta}, \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_5} \\
&\quad + L \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} ((S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'}\Omega_{\gamma\beta}, \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_6} + L \underbrace{\sum_{q'>q-5} (\Delta_q (S_{q'+2}\Omega_{\gamma\beta}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\alpha\gamma}), \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_7} \\
&\quad - L \underbrace{\Gamma \left( \Delta_q[-aQ_{\alpha\beta} + bQ_{\alpha\gamma}Q_{\gamma\beta} - cQ_{\alpha\beta}\text{tr}(Q^2)], \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_8} \\
&- L\xi \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} ([\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}] \Delta_{q'}D_{\alpha\gamma}, \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_9} - L\xi \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} ((S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'}D_{\alpha\gamma}, \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_{10}} \\
&\quad - L\xi \underbrace{\sum_{q'>q-5} (\Delta_q (S_{q'+2}D_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\beta}), \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_{11}} - L\xi \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} ([\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}] \Delta_{q'}D_{\gamma\beta}, \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_{12}}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -L\xi \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma})\Delta_q\Delta_{q'}D_{\gamma\beta}, \Delta_q\Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{I}_{13}} \underbrace{-L\xi \sum_{q'>q-5} (\Delta_q(S_{q'+2}D_{\gamma\beta}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\alpha\gamma}), \Delta_q\Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{I}_{14}} \\
& +2L\xi \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} ([\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\beta}]\Delta_{q'}\text{tr}(Q\nabla u), \Delta_q\Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{I}_{15}} +2L\xi \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} ((S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta})\Delta_q\Delta_{q'}\text{tr}(Q\nabla u), \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{I}_{16}} \\
& +2L\xi \underbrace{\sum_{q'>q-5} (\Delta_q(S_{q'+2}\text{tr}(Q\nabla u)\Delta_{q'}Q_{\alpha\beta}), \Delta_q\Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{I}_{17}} +2L\xi \underbrace{\left( S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} \left( \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\delta}]\Delta_{q'}u_{\gamma,\delta} \right), \Delta_q\Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{I}_{18}} \\
& \quad +2L\xi \underbrace{\left( S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} \left( \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\delta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\delta})\Delta_q\Delta_{q'}u_{\gamma,\delta} \right), \Delta\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{I}_{19}} \\
& \quad +2L\xi \underbrace{\left( S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2}u_{\gamma,\delta}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\delta}), \Delta_q\Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{I}_{20}}
\end{aligned}$$

The correction terms for the Navier-Stokes part are:

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\mathcal{T}_u)_\alpha \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -L\partial_\beta\Delta_q \left( \partial_\alpha Q_{\gamma\delta}\partial_\beta Q_{\gamma\delta} - \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{3}\partial_\lambda Q_{\gamma\delta}\partial_\lambda Q_{\gamma\delta} \right) - \xi\Delta_q F_{\alpha\beta,\beta} \\
& -\Delta_q(u_\beta\partial_\beta u_\alpha) - \xi\partial_\beta \left( \Delta_q(Q_{\alpha\gamma}F_{\gamma\beta}) + \Delta_q(F_{\alpha\gamma}Q_{\gamma\beta}) - 2\Delta_q(Q_{\alpha\beta}\text{tr}(QF)) \right) \\
& +L\partial_\beta \left( \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q; S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}]\Delta_{q'}\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} + \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma})\Delta_q\Delta_{q'}\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \right) \\
& \quad +L\partial_\beta \left( \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2}\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\alpha\gamma}) - \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q; S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}]\Delta_{q'}\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} \right) \\
& \quad -L\partial_\beta \left( \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\beta})\Delta_q\Delta_{q'}\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} + \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2}\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\beta}) \right) \\
& \quad -L\xi\partial_\beta \left( \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma}]\Delta_{q'}\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} + \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\gamma})\Delta_q\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\beta} \right) \\
& \quad -L\xi\partial_\beta \left( \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2}\Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\alpha\gamma}) + \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta}]\Delta_{q'}\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} \right) \\
& \quad -L\xi\partial_\beta \left( \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\beta})\Delta_q\Delta_{q'}\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} + \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2}\Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\beta}) \right) \\
& +2L\xi\partial_\beta \left( \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\beta}]\Delta_{q'}\text{tr}(Q\Delta Q) + \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta})\Delta_q\Delta_{q'}\text{tr}(Q\Delta Q) \right) \\
& \quad +2L\xi\partial_\beta \left( \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2}\text{tr}(Q\Delta Q)\Delta_{q'}Q_{\alpha\beta}) \right) \\
& +2L\xi\partial_\beta \left( S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\delta}]\Delta_{q'}\Delta Q_{\gamma\delta} + S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} (S_{q'-1}Q_{\gamma\delta} - S_{q-1}Q_{\gamma\delta})\Delta_q\Delta_{q'}\Delta Q_{\gamma\delta} \right) \\
& \quad +2L\xi\partial_\beta \left( S_{q-1}Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2}\Delta Q_{\gamma\delta}\Delta_{q'}Q_{\gamma\delta}) \right) \quad (56)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left( (\mathcal{T}_u)_\alpha, \Delta_q u_\alpha \right) = - \underbrace{(\Delta_q(u_\beta \partial_\beta u_\alpha), \Delta_q u_\alpha)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_1} + L \underbrace{\int \Delta_q \left( \partial_\alpha Q_{\gamma\delta} \partial_\beta Q_{\gamma\delta} - \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{3} \partial_\lambda Q_{\gamma\delta} \partial_\lambda Q_{\gamma\delta} \right) \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_2} \\
& - L \underbrace{\Sigma_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \int [\Delta_q; S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma}] \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_3} - L \underbrace{\int \Sigma_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_4} \\
& - L \underbrace{\int \Sigma_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_5} + L \underbrace{\int [\Delta_q; S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\beta}] \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_6} \\
& + L \underbrace{\int \Sigma_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_7} + L \underbrace{\int \Sigma_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_8} \\
& + L \xi \left( \underbrace{\left( \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma}] \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_9} + \underbrace{\left( \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{10}} \right) \\
& + L \xi \left( \underbrace{\left( \sum_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\gamma}), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{11}} + \underbrace{\left( \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\beta}] \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{12}} \right) \\
& + L \xi \left( \underbrace{\left( \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{13}} + \underbrace{\left( \sum_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\beta}), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{14}} \right) \\
& - 2L \xi \left( \underbrace{\left( \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\beta}] \Delta_{q'} \text{tr}(Q \Delta Q), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{15}} + \underbrace{\left( \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \text{tr}(Q \Delta Q), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{16}} \right) \\
& - 2L \xi \left( \underbrace{\left( \sum_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \text{tr}(Q \Delta Q) \Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\beta}), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{17}} - 2L \xi \underbrace{\left( S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\delta}] \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{18}} \right. \\
& \quad \left. - 2L \xi \underbrace{\left( S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\delta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\delta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{19}} \right. \\
& \quad \left. - 2L \xi \underbrace{\left( S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\delta}), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right)}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{20}} \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \xi \left( \underbrace{\int \Delta_q (Q_{\alpha\gamma} F_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{21}} + \int \Delta_q (F_{\alpha\gamma} Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} - 2 \underbrace{\int \Delta_q (Q_{\alpha\beta} \text{tr}(Q F)) \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{22}} \right) + \xi \underbrace{\int \Delta_q F_{\alpha\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}}_{\stackrel{def}{=} \mathcal{J}_{23}} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

## B Proof of estimate (44)

In the following,  $a_q(t)$  denotes a sequence in  $l_q^2$  for all  $t > 0$  and  $b_q(t)$  is a sequence in  $l_q^1$ ,  $\forall t \geq 0$ , sequences that can change from one line to the next. Moreover  $\|(a_q(t))_{q \in \mathbb{N}}\|_{l^2}, \|(b_q(t))_{q \in \mathbb{N}}\|_{l^1} \leq C$  where the constant  $C$  is independent of  $t \geq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{I}_1| &= |(\Delta_q(u \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta}), \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})| \stackrel{(40)}{=} \underbrace{\int S_{q-1} u \Delta_q \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta} \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_{1a}} + \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} ([\Delta_q; S_{q'-1} u] \Delta_{q'} \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta}, \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_{1b}} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} ((S_{q'-1} u - S_{q-1} u) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta}, \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_{1c}} + \underbrace{\sum_{q' \geq q-5} (\Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta} \Delta_{q'} u), \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{I}_{1d}} \end{aligned}$$

We will use frequently interpolation inequalities such as

$$\|f\|_{L^4(R^2)} \leq C \|f\|_{L^2(R^2)}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla f\|_{L^2(R^2)}^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

We have

$$|\mathcal{I}_{1a}| \leq C \|u\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2} \leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

On the other hand, using the commutator estimates and the Bernstein inequality from Lemma 2 we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{I}_{1b}| &\leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|[\Delta_q; S_{q'-1} u] \Delta_{q'} \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-q} \|\nabla S_{q'-1} u\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla \Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{\frac{q'}{2}} \|S_{q'-1} u\|_{L^4} \|\nabla \Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \leq C \|u\|_{L^4} b_q 2^{-2qs} \|\nabla Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{H^{s+\frac{1}{2}}} \|\Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{H^s} \\ &\leq C \|u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{3}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$|\mathcal{I}_{1c}| \leq C \|u\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2} \leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{I}_{1d}| &\leq \sum_{q' > q-5} |(\Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta} \Delta_{q'} u), \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})| \leq \|\nabla Q\|_{L^4} \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q'+q)s} 2^{q's} \|\Delta_{q'} u\|_{L^4} 2^{qs} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q'+q)s} a_{q'}(t) \bar{a}_q \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \leq C \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \end{aligned}$$

where  $b_q(t) = \left( \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} a_{q'}(t) \right) \bar{a}_q(t)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{I}_2| &= \left| \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} ([\Delta_q; S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\beta}] \Delta_{q'} \Omega_{\alpha\gamma}, \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}) \right| \leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-q} \|S_{q'-1} \nabla Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_{q'} \Omega_{\alpha\gamma}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} C 2^{-q} 2^{\frac{q'}{2}} \|S_{q'-1} \nabla Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^4} 2^{q'} \|\Delta_{q'} u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \leq C \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_{q'} u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{I}_3| &= \left| \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} ((S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \Omega_{\alpha\gamma}, \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}) \right| \leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|(S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \Omega_{\alpha\gamma}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\beta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \Omega_{\alpha\gamma}\|_{L^4} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-q'} \|\tilde{\Delta}_{q'} \nabla Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^4} 2^q \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^4} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{\Delta}_q = \sum_{|i| \leq 5} \Delta_i$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathcal{I}_4| &= \left| \sum_{q' > q-5} (\Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \Omega_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\beta}), \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}) \right| \leq \sum_{q' > q-5} \|\Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \Omega_{\alpha\gamma} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\beta})\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \sum_{q' > q-5} \|S_{q'+2} \Omega_{\alpha\gamma}\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \leq \sum_{q' > q-5} C 2^{q'} \|S_{q'+2} u\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \|u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} C \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-q's - qs} 2^{q'(s+1)} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{qs} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq C \|u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{3}{2}}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $b_q(t) = \left( \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} a_{q'}(t) \right) \bar{a}_q(t)$ .

The term  $\mathcal{I}_k$ ,  $k = 5, 6, 7$  is estimated exactly as the term  $\mathcal{I}_{k-3}$  that we have already studied above. We claim that:

$$|\mathcal{I}_8| \leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \left[ C \left( 1 + \left( \sum_{j=2}^3 \|Q\|_{L^{2(j-1)}}^{j-1} \right)^2 \right) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{100} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^2 \right] \quad (57)$$

In order to prove the above estimate, we observe that the simplest terms are those of the form  $(\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}, \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})$  that can be easily estimated:

$$|(\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}, \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})| \leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2 \quad (58)$$

For the rest of the terms we just consider a generic term from  $\mathcal{I}_8$ , namely  $(\Delta_q (Q_{11}^j), \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})$  where  $2 \leq j \leq 3$ . We prove first the following:

**Lemma 3.** *We have:*

$$\|\Delta_q (Q_{11}^j)\|_{L^p} \leq 2^{-qs} a_q(t) \|Q_{11}\|_{L^{p(j-1)}}^{j-1} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \quad (59)$$

for  $j \geq 2$ .

**Proof.** We prove the statement by induction.

*Step 1* We have:

$$\Delta_q (Q_{11}^2) = \sum_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} Q_{11} \Delta_{q'} Q_{11}) + \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \Delta_q (S_{q'-1} Q_{11} \Delta_{q'} Q_{11})$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\left\| \sum_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} Q_{11} \Delta_{q'} Q_{11}) \right\|_{L^p} &\leq \|Q_{11}\|_{L^p} \sum_{q' > q-5} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{11}\|_{L^\infty} \leq \|Q_{11}\|_{L^p} \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{q'} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{11}\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \|Q_{11}\|_{L^p} \sum_{q' > q-5} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q_{11}\|_{L^2} \leq \|Q_{11}\|_{L^p} 2^{-qs} a_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $a_q(t) = \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} \bar{a}_{q'}(t)$ .

On the other hand:

$$\begin{aligned}
\left\| \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \Delta_q (S_{q'-1} Q_{11} \Delta_{q'} Q_{11}) \right\|_{L^p} &\leq \|Q_{11}\|_{L^p} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{11}\|_{L^\infty} \\
&\leq \|Q_{11}\|_{L^p} 2^{-qs} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{(q-q')s} 2^{q's} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q_{11}\|_{L^2} \leq \|Q_{11}\|_{L^p} 2^{-qs} a_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}
\end{aligned} \quad (60)$$

The last two estimates prove Step 1.

Step 2 We assume the statement true for  $j$  and we aim to prove it for  $j + 1$ . We have

$$\Delta_q(Q_{11}^j Q_{11}) = \sum_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q(S_{q'+2} Q_{11}^j \Delta_{q'} Q_{11}) + \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \Delta_q(S_{q'-1} Q_{11} \Delta_q(Q_{11}^j))$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{q' > q-5} \|\Delta_q(S_{q'+2} Q_{11}^j \Delta_{q'} Q_{11})\|_{L^p} &\leq \sum_{q' > q-5} \|Q_{11}^j\|_{L^p} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{11}\|_{L^\infty} \\ \|Q_{11}^j\|_{L^p} \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-q's} 2^{q's} \|\nabla Q_{11}\|_{L^2} &\leq 2^{-qs} a_q(t) \|Q_{11}\|_{L^{pj}}^j \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_q(t) = \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} \bar{a}_q(t)$ .

On the other hand, letting  $r \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{pj}{j-1}$  so that  $\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{pj} = \frac{1}{p}$  we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|S_{q'-1} Q_{11} \Delta_{q'} Q_{11}^j\|_{L^p} &\leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|Q_{11}\|_{L^{pj}} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{11}^j\|_{L^r} \\ &\leq \|Q_{11}\|_{L^{pj}} 2^{-qs} a_q(t) \|Q\|_{L^{r(j-1)}}^{j-1} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \leq \|Q\|_{L^{pj}}^j 2^{-qs} a_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \end{aligned}$$

where for the second inequality we used the induction hypothesis.

The last two estimates show Step 2 and thus prove the lemma.  $\square$

The lemma and estimate (58) imply the claimed estimate (57).

The term  $\mathcal{I}_k, k \in \{9, 10, \dots, 14\}$  is estimated exactly as the term  $\mathcal{I}_{k-7}$  that we have already studied.

Using the commutator estimate (41) with  $p = 2, r = \frac{2}{\varepsilon}, s = \frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}$  (where we restrict  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ ) we get:

$$|\mathcal{I}_{15}| = \left| \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} ([\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\beta}] \Delta_{q'} \text{tr}(Q \nabla u), \Delta_q \Delta Q) \right| \leq C \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-q} \|S_{q'-1} \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}}} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2}$$

using Bernstein inequality we have for  $|q - q'| \leq 5$  and  $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ ,

$$2^{-q} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}}} \leq C \|\Delta_{q'} u\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}}},$$

and then, using the interpolation inequality (see [5], and also [24], Lemma 10):

$$\|f\|_{L^{2p}} \leq C \sqrt{p} \|f\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{p}} \|\nabla f\|_{L^2}^{1-\frac{1}{p}}$$

with  $p = \frac{1}{1-\varepsilon} \in [1, 2]$ , we obtain:

$$|\mathcal{I}_{15}| \leq C \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|S_q \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2}^{1-\varepsilon} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}^\varepsilon \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2},$$

where  $C > 0$  is constant independent of  $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ .

Using Young's inequality and assuming  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}, 0 < \eta < 1$  we have  $ab \leq \frac{1-\varepsilon}{2} \frac{1}{\eta} \frac{2}{1-\varepsilon} a^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} + \frac{1+\varepsilon}{2} \eta^{\frac{2}{1+\varepsilon}} b^{\frac{2}{1+\varepsilon}} < \frac{1}{\eta^4} a^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} + \eta b^{\frac{2}{1+\varepsilon}}$  which implies, for appropriate  $\eta$ :

$$|\mathcal{I}_{15}| \leq C \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \left( \|S_q \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \right)^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2}^2 + \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \min\left\{\frac{\Gamma L^2}{100}, \frac{\nu}{100}\right\} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{2}{1+\varepsilon}}$$

We also use another form of Young's inequality, namely  $ab \leq \frac{\varepsilon a^{\frac{1+\varepsilon}{\varepsilon}}}{1+\varepsilon} + \frac{b^{1+\varepsilon}}{1+\varepsilon} < a^{\frac{1+\varepsilon}{\varepsilon}} + b^{1+\varepsilon}$  and obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathcal{I}_{15}| &\leq C \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \left( \left( \|S_q \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \right)^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{\nu}{100} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{100} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2}^2 \right) \\
&\leq 2^{-2qs} \left( C \left( \|S_q \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \right)^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \|u\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\nu}{100} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{100} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathcal{I}_{16}| &= \left| \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} ((S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \text{tr}(Q \nabla u), \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}) \right| \\
&\leq \sum_{|q-q'| \leq 5} \|\Delta_q (Q \nabla u)\|_{L^\infty} \|S_{q'-1} Q - S_{q-1} Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^q \|Q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \|S_{q'-1} Q - S_{q-1} Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \\
|\mathcal{I}_{17}| &= \left| \sum_{q' > q-5} \left( \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \text{tr}(Q \nabla u) \Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\beta}), \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta} \right) \right| \leq \sum_{q' > q-5} \|S_{q'+2} (Q \nabla u)\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{q'} \|Q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q+q')s} 2^{q's} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} 2^{qs} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $b_q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} \tilde{a}_{q'}(t) a_q(t) \in l^1$  with  $a_q(t), \tilde{a}_{q'}(t) \in l^2$ .

Using the commutator estimate (41) with  $p=2, q=\frac{2}{\varepsilon}, r=\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}$  (where we restrict  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ ) we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathcal{I}_{18}| &= |(S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\delta}] \Delta_{q'} u_{\gamma,\delta}, \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})| \leq \|S_{q-1} Q\|_{L^\infty} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|[\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q] \Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-q} \|S_{q'-1} \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}}} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2}
\end{aligned}$$

We continue estimating exactly as in the proof of the estimates for the term  $\mathcal{I}_{15}$  and obtain, for  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathcal{I}_{18}| &\leq 2^{-2qs} \left( C \left( \|S_q \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \right)^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \|u\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\nu}{100} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{100} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \right) \\
|\mathcal{I}_{19}| &= |(S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \left( \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\delta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\delta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} u_{\gamma,\delta} \right), \Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta})| \\
&\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|S_{q'-1} Q - S_{q-1} Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^q \|S_{q'-1} Q - S_{q-1} Q\|_{L^2} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q\|_{L^2} \leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-2qs} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \\
|\mathcal{I}_{20}| &= |(S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{q' > q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} u_{\gamma,\delta} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\delta}), \Delta_q \Delta Q_{\alpha\beta})| \\
&\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \sum_{q' > q-5} \|S_{q'+2} u_{\gamma,\delta} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\delta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{q'} \|\Delta_{q'} Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{q' > q-5} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q+q')s} 2^{q's} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} 2^{qs} \|\Delta \Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $b_q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{q'>q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} \tilde{a}_{q'}(t) a_q(t) \in l^1$  with  $a_q(t), \tilde{a}_q(t) \in l^2$ .

$$|\mathcal{J}_1| = |(\Delta_q(u\nabla u), \Delta_q u)| = \underbrace{|\int S_{q-1} u \nabla \Delta_q u \cdot \Delta_q u|}_{\mathcal{J}_{1a}} + \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} |\int [\Delta_q; S_{q'-1} u] \Delta_{q'} \nabla u \Delta_q u|}_{\mathcal{J}_{1b}} \\ + \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} |\int (S_{q'-1} u - S_{q-1} u) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \nabla u \Delta_q u|}_{\mathcal{J}_{1c}} + \underbrace{\sum_{q'>q-5} |\int \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \nabla u \cdot \Delta_{q'} u) \Delta_q u|}_{\mathcal{J}_{1d}}$$

with

$$|\mathcal{J}_{1a}| \leq \|S_{q-1} u\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^4} \leq \|u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{3}{2}} \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$|\mathcal{J}_{1b}| = \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} \int [\Delta_q; S_{q'-1} u] \Delta_{q'} \nabla u \Delta_q u \leq C 2^{-q} \|S_{q-1} \nabla u\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^4} \\ \leq C \|u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{3}{2}} \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$|\mathcal{J}_{1c}| \leq \sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} \|(S_{q'-1} - S_{q-1}) u\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^4} \leq C \|u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{3}{2}} \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$|\mathcal{J}_{1d}| = \sum_{q'>q-5} (\Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \nabla u \Delta_{q'} u), \Delta_q u) \leq \sum_{q'>q-5} \|\Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \nabla u \Delta_{q'} u)\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^4} \\ \leq \sum_{q'>q-5} \|S_{q'+2} \nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_{q'} u\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^4} \leq \sum_{q'>q-5} C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_{q'} u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ \leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} 2^{-qs} \sum_{q'>q-5} 2^{-q's} (2^{q's} \|\Delta_{q'} u\|_{L^2})^{\frac{1}{2}} (2^{q's} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^2})^{\frac{1}{2}} (2^{qs} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2})^{\frac{1}{2}} (2^{qs} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2})^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ \leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s} \|u\|_{H^s} 2^{-2qs} \left( 2^{qs} \sum_{q'>q-5} c 2^{-q's} a_{q'}(t) \bar{a}_{q'}(t) \right) \leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s} \|u\|_{H^s}$$

where  $b_q(t) = \sum_{q'>q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} a_{q'}(t) \bar{a}_{q'}(t) \in l_q^1, \forall t \geq 0$ .

We claim that we have:

$$|\mathcal{J}_2| = \left| \int \Delta_q (\partial_\alpha Q_{\gamma\delta} \partial_\beta Q_{\gamma\delta}) \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right| \leq \|\Delta_q (\partial_\alpha Q_{\gamma\delta} \partial_\beta Q_{\gamma\delta})\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ \leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\partial_\alpha Q_{\gamma\delta} \partial_\beta Q_{\gamma\delta}\|_{H^s} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s} \leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}. \quad (61)$$

In order to prove the claim we write, using Bony's paraproduct decomposition (40):

$$|\mathcal{J}_2| \leq \|\Delta_q (\partial_\alpha Q_{\gamma\delta} \partial_\beta Q_{\gamma\delta})\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq \underbrace{\|S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha} \Delta_q Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A} \\ + \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} \|(S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha} - S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} B} + \underbrace{\sum_{|q'-q|\leq 5} \|[\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha}] \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} C} \\ + \underbrace{\sum_{q'>q-5} \|\Delta_q (S_{q'+2} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha})\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2}}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} D} \quad (62)$$

We estimate:

$$|A| \leq \|\nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}$$

and a similar estimate holds for  $B$ .

$$\begin{aligned} |C| &\leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-q} \|\Delta S_{q'-1} Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq \|\nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |D| &\leq \sum_{q' > q-5} \|\Delta_q (S_{q'+2} Q_{\gamma\delta,\beta} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\delta,\alpha})\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq \sum_{q' > q-5} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s} \end{aligned}$$

where  $b_q(t) = \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} a_{q'}(t) \bar{a}_q(t)$ .

The last three estimates imply the claimed estimate (61).

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{J}_3| &= \left| \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \int [\Delta_q; S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma}] \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right| \leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|[\Delta_q; S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma}] \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C 2^{-q} \|S_{q'-1} \nabla Q_{\alpha\gamma}\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta}\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq C 2^{-\frac{q}{2}} \|S_{q'-1} \nabla Q\|_{L^4} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq 2^{\frac{q}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Concerning the term  $\mathcal{J}_4$  we use that  $(S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma})$  is localized in a dyadic ring, so we have

$$\|S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma}\|_{L^\infty} \leq C 2^{-\frac{q}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^4} \leq C 2^{-\frac{q}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

and we obtain

$$|\mathcal{J}_4| = \left| \int \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma} - S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right| \leq C 2^{-\frac{q}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}\|_{L^2}.$$

Using the fact that  $\|\Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta}\|_{L^2} \leq C 2^{\frac{q}{2}} 2^{-qs} a_q^1(t) \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}}$  and  $\|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \leq C 2^{-qs} a_q^2(t) \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}$  and denoting  $b_q(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} a_q^1(t) a_q^2(t)$  we find

$$|\mathcal{J}_4| \leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \|u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

The following term to estimate is  $\mathcal{J}_5$ . Using Bernstein inequalities  $\|S_{q'+2} \Delta Q\|_{L^\infty} \leq C 2^{q'} 2^{\frac{q'}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^4} \leq C 2^{\frac{3q'}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}}$  and  $\|\Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\gamma}\|_{L^2} \leq C 2^{-\frac{3q'}{2}} \|\nabla \Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\gamma}\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\alpha\gamma}\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{J}_5| &= \left| \sum_{q' > q-5} \int \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \Delta Q_{\gamma\beta} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\gamma}) \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right| \leq \left| \sum_{q' > q-5} \|S_{q'+2} \Delta Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_{q'} Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \right| \\ &\leq C \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{\frac{3q'}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{-\frac{3q'}{2}} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_{q'} \Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-q's} a_{q'}(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} 2^{-qs} \bar{a}_q(t) \|\nabla u\|_{H^s} \\ &\leq C 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{L^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s} \end{aligned} \quad (63)$$

where  $b_q(t) = \sum_{q' > q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} a_{q'}(t) \bar{a}_q(t)$ .

The term  $\mathcal{J}_k, k = 6, 7, 8$  is estimated exactly as the term  $\mathcal{J}_{k-3}$  that we have already studied above. We also have that  $\mathcal{J}_k = \mathcal{J}_{k-6}$  for  $k \in \{9, \dots, 14\}$ .

For  $\mathcal{J}_{15}$  we apply Schwartz inequality together with the commutator estimate (41) with  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$  and  $p = \frac{2}{1+\varepsilon}$ ,  $r = \frac{2}{\varepsilon}$  and  $s = 2$  to obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{J}_{15}| &= \left| \left( \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\beta}] \Delta_{q'} \text{tr}(Q \Delta Q), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right) \right| \leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|[\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q] \Delta_{q'} (Q \Delta Q)\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1+\varepsilon}}} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}}} \\ &\leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-q} \|S_{q'-1} \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|\Delta_{q'} (Q \Delta Q)\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}}} \\ &\leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-q} \|S_{q'-1} \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_{q'} \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla u\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}}} \end{aligned}$$

We continue estimating exactly as in the proof of the estimates for the term  $\mathcal{J}_{15}$  and obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{J}_{16}| &\leq 2^{-2qs} \left( C \left( \|S_q \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \right)^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \|u\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\nu}{100} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{100} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \right) \\ &\leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \left| \left( (S_{q'-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} - S_q Q_{\alpha\beta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \text{tr}(Q \Delta Q), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|S_{q'-1} Q - S_q Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^q \|S_{q'-1} Q - S_q Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \\ |\mathcal{J}_{17}| &\leq \sum_{q' > q-5} \left| \left( \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \text{tr}(Q \Delta Q) \Delta_{q'} Q_{\alpha\beta}), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right) \right| \leq \sum_{q' > q-5} \|\Delta_q \text{tr}(Q \Delta Q)\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_{q'} Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{q' > q-5} \|\Delta_q' \nabla Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \end{aligned}$$

For  $\mathcal{J}_{18}$  we apply Schwartz inequality together with the commutator estimate (41) with  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$  and  $p = \frac{2}{1+\varepsilon}$ ,  $r = \frac{2}{\varepsilon}$  and  $s = 2$  to obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{J}_{18}| &\leq \left| \left( S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} [\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\delta}] \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right) \right| \leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|[\Delta_q, S_{q'-1} Q] \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1+\varepsilon}}} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}}} \\ &\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} 2^{-q} \|S_{q'-1} \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|\Delta_{q'} \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}}} \end{aligned}$$

We continue estimating exactly as in the proof of the estimates for the term  $\mathcal{J}_{15}$  and obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{J}_{18}| &\leq 2^{-2qs} \left( C \left( \|S_q \nabla Q\|_{L^{\frac{2}{\varepsilon}}} \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \right)^{\frac{2}{1-\varepsilon}} \|u\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\nu}{100} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\Gamma L^2}{100} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \right) \\ |\mathcal{J}_{19}| &\leq \left| \left( S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} (S_{q'-1} Q_{\gamma\delta} - S_{q-1} Q_{\gamma\delta}) \Delta_q \Delta_{q'} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right) \right| \\ &\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|S_{q'-1} Q - S_{q-1} Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{|q'-q| \leq 5} \|\Delta_q \nabla Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathcal{J}_{20}| &\leq \left| \left( S_{q-1} Q_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{q'>q-5} \Delta_q (S_{q'+2} \Delta Q_{\gamma\delta} \Delta_{q'} Q_{\gamma\delta}), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta} \right) \right| \\
&\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \sum_{q'>q-5} \|\Delta_{q'} Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \nabla u\|_{L^2} \leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{q'>q-5} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \\
&\leq \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \sum_{q'>q-5} 2^{-(q'+q)s} 2^{q's} \|\Delta_{q'} \nabla Q\|_{L^2} 2^{qs} \|\Delta_q \Delta Q\|_{L^2} \leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|Q\|_{L^\infty} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2} \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \|\Delta Q\|_{H^s}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $b_q(t) = \sum_{q'>q-5} 2^{-(q'-q)s} a_{q'}(t) \bar{a}_q(t)$ .

Finally, we claim that:

$$|\mathcal{J}_{21}| + |\mathcal{J}_{22}| + |\mathcal{J}_{23}| \leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \left[ C \left( \sum_{j=2}^5 \|Q\|_{L^{2(j-1)}}^{j-1} \right)^2 \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s}^2 + \|u\|_{H^s}^2 + \frac{\nu}{100} \|\nabla u\|_{H^s}^2 \right] \quad (64)$$

In order to prove the above estimate, we observe that the simplest terms are those of the form  $(\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta})$  that can be easily estimated:

$$|(\Delta_q Q_{\alpha\beta}, \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta})| \leq C \|\Delta_q \nabla Q\|_{L^2} \|\Delta_q u\|_{L^2} \leq 2^{-2qs} b_q(t) \|\nabla Q\|_{H^s} \|u\|_{H^s}$$

For the rest of the terms we just consider a generic term from  $\mathcal{J}_{21}, \mathcal{J}_{22}, \mathcal{J}_{23}$ , namely  $(\Delta_q (Q_{11}^j), \Delta_q u_{\alpha,\beta})$  where  $2 \leq j \leq 5$  and use Lemma 3 to obtain the claimed estimate (64).

Putting together the estimates for all terms, multiplying by  $2^{2qs}$  and taking the sum in  $q$ , observing that we can write any sequence  $b_q \in l_q^1$  as  $b_q = a_q \cdot \bar{a}_q$  with  $a_q, \bar{a}_q \in l_q^2$ , using  $ab \leq C\varepsilon^{-1}a^2 + \varepsilon b^2$ , with appropriate  $\varepsilon$ , we obtain the claimed estimate (44).

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